FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 FEBRUARY 1986

Further Reaction to Interception of Libyan Plane

PFLP-General Command Secretary General Ahmad Jibril issued a warning to all passengers thinking of traveling on Israeli or U.S. airliners in the future, advising them not to do so, Tripoli radio reported. Jibril, who was speaking at a news conference in Tripoli, added that "henceforth, we will not be responsible for any civilians aboard these planes." Claiming that the interception of the Libyan plane was the product of "complete coordination" between the United States and Israel, Jibril declared that Palestinian resistance groups "are free to take the appropriate measures in response to these attacks."

In further Syrian reaction, Damascus radio maintained that Israel would not have dared to intercept the Libyan plane without the "complete support" of the United States. Damascus television broadcast the Syrian foreign minister's statement that U.S. military support for Israel and use of the UN Security Council veto in its favor demonstrate that the United States is Israel's "accomplice" in violating international law.

A Cairo radio commentary also castigated Israel's "air piracy," describing the interception as "one of the most serious international crimes." Meanwhile, the PLO condemned "this U.S.-Supported official Zionist terrorism" in a statement carried by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. The Council of Arab Interior Ministers also denounced the Israeli action in a statement broadcast by Rabat radio following the Council's meeting in Casablanca.

In Israel, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned that Israel will strongly retaliate against any attack, including attempts made by terrorists in the air, at sea, or on land, IDF radio reported 6 feburary. Peres had earlier acknowledged that the interception of the Libyan plane was a "mistake," but he expressed hope that the United States will understand the motives involved, Jerusalem radio noted.

Iraq

Iraq is ready to establish "neighborly" relations with Syria if suitable circumstances are established, President Saddam Husayn told Kuwait's AL-QABAS, INA reported. Syria should act to restore relations before the Iran-Iraq war ends, Saddam said, adding that the process will be more difficult when the war ends and Iraq begins "to recall Syrian behavior." Iraq is also prepared to "establish new relations" with Libya if that country reconsiders its stance on the war, the Iraqi president stated.

Egypt-Israel

The Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. delegations to the Tabah talks met in Al-Jizah near Cairo 5 and 6 February, Cairo radio reported. In the first day's meeting, Egypt and Israel agreed to set up two negotiating committees, one on the Tabah arbitration and the other on normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Egypt disagrees with the Israeli linkage of arbitration with other bilateral issues, Jerusalem radio added, citing the head of the Egyptian delegation. An Egyptian spokesman cited by MENA stated that Israel's conditions in its decision on arbitration are an Israeli "interpretation" and are not binding on Egypt.

Meanwhile, IDF officials began investigating the collision 4 February of an Egyptian patrol boat with an Israeli yacht in the Gulf of Elat, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported. The passengers on the yacht claimed that the Egyptian vessel deliberately rammed their boat, the report added.

PLO Affairs

Khalid al-Hasan denied that he has suspended his membership in Fatah, WAKH reported, citing a statement in the UAE's *AL-BAYAN*.

Lebanon

Acknowledging that Islamic Group gunmen were responsible for downing a UNIFIL helicopter in the Sidon area 5 February, an Islamic Group spokesman cited by Beirut radio indicated that the aircraft was shot down on the assumption that it belonged to the army of southern Lebanon. The passengers in the helicopter were unharmed in the crash landing and were subsequently handed over to the UNIFIL command, the radio noted.

PDRY

'Ali Nasir Muhammad plotted for a long time to "smash the revolution from inside," acting Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas told a rally in Abyan Governorate in a speech broadcast by Aden radio. Al-'Attas maintained that 'Ali Nasir's efforts to muster support in Abyan were unsuccessful because the governorate had suffered "the most" from his economic policies, which favored "extravagant" luxury projects rather than homes, hospitals, and schools. 'Ali Nasir was consequently unable to stay more than "a few hours" in Abyan. Noting that "large numbers" of "misled" people have fled abroad, Al-'Attas urged them to return home and contribute to economic and social construction, adding that the authorities will not bring them to account but will only take action against those who planned and carried out 'Ali Nasir's "conspiracy."

OPEC Affairs

The oil ministers of Iran, Libya, and Algeria expressed concern over the "instability" of the oil market and called for increased unity among the OPEC member-countries, Tripoli radio reported, citing the ministers' press statement at the conclusion of a meeting in Tripoli.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS
Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 025 *6 February 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PFLP-GC Threatens To Attack U.S., Israeli Planes *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* .... A 1
Arab League Meeting Speakers Stress Solidarity *[MAP]* .... A 1
    Discuss Libyan Plane Hijacking *[Rabat]* .... A 1
    Libyan Assails U.S.'Terrorism' *[JANA]* .... A 2
Frayj: No Mideast Peace Talks Without USSR, PLO *[LA REPUBBLICA 30 Jan]* .... A 2
UAE Paper Interviews PLO's Qaddumi in New York *[AL-ITTIHAD 4 Feb]* .... A 3
Joint Forces Attack Israeli, Lahd Positions *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 5

OPEC AFFAIRS

Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting Set for Next Month *[AFP]* .... B 1
Al-'Utaybah Says OPEC Has Arrived at Crossroads *[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 2 Feb]* .... B 1
Minister Says Ecuador Plans To Float Oil Prices *[Quito]* .... B 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Journal Notes USSR Role in Region, PDRY .... C 1

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS Reports U.S. Examining Events in PDRY *[4 Feb]* .... C 1

PDRY

Acting Chairman Al-'Attas Addresses Abyan Rally .... C 3
Reaction to Israeli 'Air Piracy' Reported .... C 6
    Al-'Attas Calls Syria's Al-Asad .... C 6
    Al-Dali Sends Support Cables .... C 6
Minister Receives Soviet Economic Adviser .... C 7
Officials Meet Ministry Employees, Others .... C 7
Rallies Held Denouncing 'Ali Nasir Conspiracy .... C 7
    Hawtah City March .... C 7
    Supreme Court Hall Rally .... C 8
Journalists Tour Abyan Districts, Meet Officials .... C 8
UAE Paper Reports 'Ali Nasir in Syria; Prior Visits *[QNA]* .... C 8
Fisheries Minister Returns From Arab Tour .... C 8

QATAR

Minister Receives Note From Saudi Foreign Minister *[WAKH]* .... C 9
Cabinet Denounces Israeli 'Hijacking' .... C 9

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Analyzes Soviet Role in PDRY Developments *[27 Jan]* .... C 9

UAE

FRG President Makes Stopover in Abu Dhabi *[WAKH]* C 10
    Meets With President Al Nuhayyan *[WAKH]* C 10
    Departs Following 1-Day Visit C 10

YAR

Iraqi Deputy Minister Conveys Message to President C 11
    Makes Statement, Departs C 11

EGYPT

Mubarak Interviewed on Mideast Situation, Terrorism *[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 3 Feb]* D 1
'Abd Al-Majid, Papers Comment on Israeli 'Hijacking' D 4
    'Abd al-Majid D 4
    AL-AHRAM on Libya, Interception D 4
    AL-AKHBAR on 'State Terrorism' D 4
    Commentary Criticizes Israel D 5
Discussions on Tabah Issue Underway in Al-Jizah D 5
    First Official Session D 5
    Working Team Makes Progress D 6
    Second Day of Talks D 6
Joint Military Liaison Office Meeting Held D 6
Coast Guard Boat, Israeli Yacht Collide Near Elat D 6
Israeli Smuggler's Case Referred to Mufti D 6
'Abd al-Majid Briefed on Jordanian-Palestinian Talks D 6

IRAQ

Report on AL-QABAS Interview With Saddam Husayn E 1
Tariq 'Aziz returns From Talks in YAR E 2
Oil Minister Returns From OPEC Meeting, Comments E 2
Communique No 2,106 on 4-5 Feb Combat Operations E 2

JORDAN

King Husayn Receives Yasir 'Arafat 5 Feb F 1
Paper Says Arabs Must Confront Israeli 'Terrorism' *[AL-DUSTUR 5 Feb]* F 1
    Calls for Sanctions *[AL-DUSTUR 6 Feb]* F 1

LEBANON

Al-Jumayyil Vows To Remain in Office *[AFP]* G 1
Al-Jumayyil, Others Condemn Israeli 'Piracy' G 1
    Al-Jumayyil Calls Al-Asad G 1
    Calls Al-Qadhdhafi *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 1
    Karami Denounces 'Hijacking' G 1
    Al-Huss Cited on 'Piracy' G 1
Islamic Grouping on Tripartite Agreement, 'Hijacking' G 2
Islamic Group Downs UNIFIL Helicopter, Holds Crew G 2
    Contact Lost Near Al-Jiyah G 2
    Islamic Group Holds Crew *[Radio Free Lebanon]* G 2
    Negotiations Underway G 2
    Arqadan Negotiates for Release *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 2
    Helicopter Passengers Released G 2
    Crew Released in Sidon *[Voice of the Mountain]* G 3
Amal, Palestinian Front Agree on Camps Security G 3
Amal Cites Military Build-Up in Palestinian Camps *[Radio Free Lebanon]* G 3
Gunfire in West Beirut, Mountain Area G 3

Fighting Reported in Areas East of Sidon .... G 3
Resistance Reports Attacks on Lahd Positions *[Voice of the Mountain]* .... G 3

SYRIA

Foreign Ministry Actions After Plane Incident .... H 1
AL-BA'TH Scores U.S.-Backed Israeli'Piracy' .... H 1
Radio Reports UNSC Session on Plane Incident .... H 1
Foreign Officials Condemn Israeli 'Air Piracy' .... H 2
Paper Says Israeli Act Will Not Go 'Unpunished' .... H 2

ISRAEL

Reportage on Talks in Egypt on Tabah Negotiations .... I 1
    Talks Begin; Committees Established .... I 1
    Egyptians Reject Proposals .... I 1
    Peres: Position Not 'Ultimatum' *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Feb]* .... I 1
Weizman Interviewed on Tabah Talks, Peace Process .... I 1
Peres Briefs Knesset Committee on Talks With Murphy .... I 2
Peres: Nation Will Retaliate for Terrorist Strikes .... I 2
    On Retaliation, Peace .... I 2
Further Reportage on Reaction to Plane Interception .... I 3
    Peres: Interception 'A Mistake' .... I 3
    Wrong Plane Intercepted *[MA'ARIV 6 Feb]* .... I 3
    El Al: 'No Room for Fear' .... I 3
    6 Feb Morning Press Reaction .... I 3
    6 Feb Midday Press Reaction .... I 4
    AL-MITHAQ Condemnation *[5 Feb]* .... I 4
Egyptian Vessel Rams, Damages Israeli Yacht *[DAVAR 5 Feb]* .... I 4
    IDF Investigating *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Feb]* .... I 4
Radio Reports Israeli Sentenced to Death in Egypt .... I 5
    Foreign Ministry Involvement .... I 5
    MK Seeks Mubarak Pardon .... I 5
Minister Says OPEC Offers To Sell Oil To Israel *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Feb]* .... I 5
MAPAM Submits No-Confidence Motion on Shipyard .... I 5
Three Inhabitants of Territories Deported 5 Feb .... I 5

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

EL MOUDJAHID Details Bendjedid-Al-Qadhdhafi Talks *[29 Jan]* .... Q 1
    Further on Talks *[30 Jan]* .... Q 1
Further on Visit of Uruguayan Foreign Minister .... Q 2
    Commercial Agreement Signed .... Q 2
    Visit Ends .... Q 2

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Call From Al-Jumayyil .... Q 2
PFLP-GC's Jibril Threatens U.S., Israeli Planes .... Q 2
People's Committee Member Views Plane Interception *[BBC]* .... Q 3
Armed Forces Commander Receives PFLP's Habash .... Q 3
PFLP's Habash Acknowledges Longstanding Support .... Q 4
Statement on Oil Talks With Algeria, Iran Issued .... Q 4

MAURITANIA

Cooperation Talks With Mali Open in Nouakchott .... Q 4

MOROCCO

King Sends Letter to UN on Israeli Interception ..... Q 4
Prime Minister Lamrani Receives Libyan Official ..... Q 5
Committee Denounces Spanish 'Acts of Oppression' ..... Q 5

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Uganda President's Envoy ..... Q 5
    Receives CAR Minister ..... Q 5
Defense Minister Returns From Talks in Syria ..... Q 6
    Fears Israeli Attack *[KUNA]* ..... Q 6
Daf'allah, Aru Receive Visiting British MP's ..... Q 6
IMF Refuses To Extend Additional Credit ..... Q 7
    Housing Minister Reacts ..... Q 7
Cabinet Discusses 'Unruly Wave' of Strikes ..... Q 7
Initial Agreement Reached Between Disputing Tribes ..... Q 7
Army Source Denies Rebels Occupying Villages ..... Q 8
SPLA Radio Reports Army Truck Blown Up in Akobo ..... Q 8
Judiciary To Continue Islamic Law in All Courts ..... Q 8

TUNISIA

Foreign Ministry Source Condemns Plane Interception ..... Q 8
Prime Minister Returns From African Tour 4 Feb ..... Q 8
USSR Foreign Minister To Visit Tunisia *[MENA]* ..... Q 8
Arab League Head Meets Mzali, Departs for Libreville ..... Q 8
Labor Union Announces Delegation of Duties ..... Q 9

EAST AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

First Plane Arrives From PDRY With Evacuees ..... R 1

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Leaves for Visit to France 3 Feb ..... R 1

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Calls for 'Urgent Measures' on Economy ..... R 1

UGANDA

Museveni Urges Civil Service To Avoid Lobbyists ..... R 1
Kisekka Interviewed on Corruption, Rural Areas ..... R 2
NRA Official Urges Okello troops To Give Up Guns ..... R 2
    Sudanese Disarming Okello Troops *[THE STANDARD 6 Feb]* ..... R 2
    Sudanese President's 'Pledge' Received ..... R 3
Allegations of Mass Killings in North Denied ..... R 3
Minister Denies Police Force Disbanded ..... R 3

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Mzali Concludes 1-Day 'Positive' Visit *[Tunis]* ..... S 1
Financial Agreement Signed With CCCE ..... S 1

CONGO

AFP: Paper Denounces French Stance on Chad Issue .... S 1

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO

President Sankara Begins Visit to Paris .... T 1
CDR National Conference To Be Held in March .... T 1

GHANA

Secretary for Interior Relieved of Post .... T 1
$24 Million World Bank Loan Secured .... T 1

GUINEA

Construction of National Airport at Boffa Set .... T 1

IVORY COAST

Arrest Warrant for Former Mayor Withdrawn .... T 1

LIBERIA

'Economic Problems' Force Embassy in Sweden To Close .... T 2
Blamo Returns From OAU Liberation Committee Meeting .... T 2
Payment of Salaries to Government Employees Ordered .... T 2
Chief Justice: Decrees Stay in Force Pending Review .... T 2

MALI

Communique Issued on Visit by Tunisia's Mzali .... T 3
Assembly Official To Attend Cuban Party Congress .... T 4

NIGER

Kaduna Governor Arrives in Zinder for Visit .... T 4

NIGERIA

Ambassador Says PRC Desires To Increase Trade .... T 4
Panel Set Up To Investigate Institution Closure .... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Luanda Comments on Reagan's State of Union Address .... U 1
Dos Santos Receives Swedish Energy Minister .... U 1
Military Operations Against UNITA Forces Detailed .... U 1
    80 UNITA Dead .... U 1
    Another 83 'Annihilated' .... U 1
    33 Killed During 'Massacre' .... U 1
UNITA Reports Operations Against Government Forces .... U 2
    2 MIG's Downed, 23 Cubans Killed .... U 2
    80 Soldiers Captured, 25 Killed *[KUP Radio]*........ U 2

BOTSWANA

- Gaborone Reports Meeting With South African Officials ..... U 2
- British Officers Involved in Army Training ..... U 2
- Foreign Minister Leaves For EEC-Frontline Meeting ..... U 2

LESOTHO

- King Grants Amnesty for All 'Political' Offences ..... U 2
- Lekhanya Says 'Genuine Refugees' Will Be Accepted ..... U 3
- Jonathan's Secretary, Youth League Leaders Detained *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 3
- DPRK Workers Reportedly Left Due to Lack of Funds ..... U 3
- Commentary Denies RSA Involvement in Recent Coup ..... U 3
- Civil Servants Association Pledges Loyalty ..... U 4

MOZAMBIQUE

- North Koreans Expelled from Lesotho Arrive in Maputo ..... U 4
- Powerlines Sabotaged; Freight Train Attacked ..... U 4
- Swedish Development Aid Minister Visits ..... U 4

NAMIBIA

- Security Force Kills 33 SWAPO 'Insurgents' ..... U 5

SOUTH AFRICA

- Pik Botha Speaks to Reporters on Current Issues ..... U 5
    - African Support for UNITA *[Umtata]* ..... U 5
    - Black Presidents Possible ..... U 5
    - No Link With Lesotho Coup *[Umtata]* ..... U 5
    - Mandela Release Still Possible *[Umtata]* ..... U 5
- Nel Interviewed on Advertising Campaign ..... U 6
- PFP's Suzman Calls for Moratorium on Pass Arrests *[Umtata]* ..... U 7
- PFP MP on Government's 'Economic Mismanagement' ..... U 7
- HNP Leader Comments on Proposed Measures ..... U 7
- Colored MP's Refused Service in White Dining Room ..... U 7
- Education Minister on Recognition of Ethnic Groups ..... U 7
- Further Talks With Botswana on Security Planned ..... U 7
- East London Consumer Boycott To Resume 3 March *[Umtata]* ..... U 8
- 'Amicable' Terms To Stop Zulu-Pondo Fighting Reached ..... U 8
- KwaNdebele To Accept Independence on 4 December ..... U 8
- European Socialists To Press for Tougher Sanctions ..... U 8
- Faction Fighting Erupts in East Rand Mine ..... U 8
    - Miners Bused Out *[Umtata]* ..... U 8
    - 6 Dead, 34 Injured ..... U 9
    - NUM Comments ..... U 9
- Traffic Officer Burned in Auto Petrol Bombing ..... U 9
- Three 'Terrorists' Arrested in Northern Natal ..... U 9
- Man Killed in Clash With Bophuthatswana Police ..... U 10
- Police Report 5-6 Feb Unrest Incidents ..... U 10
    - 5 Feb ..... U 10
    - 6 Feb ..... U 10
- Press Comments, Reports on Current Issues ..... U 10

SWAZILAND

- Bhekimpi Views Fernandez Dismissal, Warns Dissidents ..... U 13

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Criticizes U.S. Support for RSA *[PANA]* .... U 14
EEC-Frontline States Foreign Ministers Meet .... U 14
    Kuanda Receives Dos Santos Message .... U 14
    Kuanda Opens Session .... U 15
    Kaunda Addresses Session *[Umtata]* .... U 15
    Kaunda Hosts Dinner .... U 15
    Kaunda Meets UK, Greek Ministers .... U 15
    UK Minister Makes Statement .... U 16
    EEC President on Commitment .... U 16
    French Minister Pledges Aid .... U 16
ANC's Nzo Holds Press Confernce on Talks With UK *[PANA]* .... U 16

PFLP-GC Threatens To Attack U.S., Israeli Planes

JN060615 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0600 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril held a press conference in Tripoli in the name of the six Palestinian groups that oppose 'Arafat and form the rejection front within the PLO. Jibril, who was speaking on behalf of all these groups, said that by helping Israel intercept the Libyan plane, the United States has declared war on the Arabs. Therefore, he added, the Palestinian revolution believes that the war has started and that it is no longer responsible for what may happen.

Jibril told journalists: From now on there will be no safety for any traveler on an Israeli or U.S. airliner. Tell those who will be traveling on U.S. or Israeli airliners that from now on we will not be merciful to any traveler even if he is a civilian. The 6th fleet and U.S. intelligence have helped the Zionists intercept our plane and thus declared war on us. We do not have planes, ships, or radars, but we will know how to strike. All we are asking is that you convey this threat to the world.

Arab League Meeting Speakers Stress Solidarity

LD051351 Rabat MAP in English 1219 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Rabat, Feb 5 (MAP) — "In our capacity as Arab ministers of the interior we shoulder the responsibility and the duty to discard dangers by endeavouring to consolidate security for progress and prosperity", said Moroccan Minister of the Interior and Information Driss Basri.

Opening the fourth session of the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior Tuesday morning [4 Feb] in Casablanca, in the presence of Saudi Minister of the Interior and Honorary Chairman of the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior Prince Nayyif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Assistant Secretary General of the Arab League Mohamed Ben Slama and Secretary general of the Council Akram Nachaat Ibrahim Mr Basri underlined the necessity for Arabs to act in solidarity soas to foil the common enemy schemes and pressures which aim the entire Arab nation.

Basri also recalled the advice King Hassan II of Morocco made to the Arab ministers of the interior when he received them on the occasion of the holding of their first session in 1982 in Casablanca.

Basri said quoting the Moroccan sovereign: "If, to the problems of international order we are facing and which are embodied by the violation of moral values, the persistent subversion, we add difficulties of neighbourhood then we would have chosen suicide, which will benefit in the first instance our enemy, who covets the alienation our territories, our beliefs and our sacred values".

Refering to the session's agenda, the Moroccan minister of the interior and information underlined the necessity to make the Arab youth participate in all the sectorial activities and the arrangements of the Arab city.

Prior to the intervention of Basri and on behalf of the deputies of Casablanca, MP Abderrazak Rouissi delivered an address in which he welcomed the participants in the fourth session of the council and stressed the importance of cooperation among Arab countries in security matters to preserve the peace and security of the Arab citizens.

He affirmed that the attachment to religious, cultural and civilizational values is an essential guarantee to the consolidation of security in the Arab world.

On his part the assistant secretary general of the Arab League took the floor to read out the message of Arab League Secretary general Chedli Klibi in which the latter expressed satisfaction at the laudable actions undertaken by the council in spite of its recent creation.

Arab societies, which live in an era of rapid mutation [as received], Klibi added, must cooperate to identify the strategies likely to ensure social security to the Arab citizen. He also laid emphasis on the fact that external security can be secured only if internal security is consolidated. He also recalled that political security and social peace of Arab countries are fundamental conditions to reinforce their capacity to defend their sovereignty.

The debates of the council, he went on, will enable the Arab nation identify and remedy to the social problems ailing Arab societies and hampering the march of the Arab citizen to development and progress.

Akram Nachaat Ibrahim took the floor to highlight the council's activities to consolidate Arab complementarity in security affairs. He recalled that the council is particularly concerned with the Palestinians living in Arab countries. The council decided to renew the Palestinians' passports so as they can freely enjoy the rights to travelling and residing in Arab countries.

He also dealt with the activities of the council's Secretariat General which comprise ten meetings of the Arab officials from security spheres. The meetings adopted recommendations which will be submitted to the current session, he added.

He also indicated that the council's Secretariat General participated in 1985 in 35 conferences and meetings at the Arab and international levels. The Secretariat General worked out reports and publications on crime and narcotics in the Arab world, Nachaat further said.

Several Arab ministers of the interior took the floor during the council's Tuesday afternoon session to tackle issues related to Arab security, at large, such as the Iraqi-Iranian war, the problems of expulsion of Arab citizen from the occupied Arab territories, the bombing by Israel of the Palestinian headquarters in Tunis, Lebanon invasion by Israel, the U.S. economic sanctions and military threats against Libya, the profanation of the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Discuss Libyan Plane Hijacking

LD051733 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] In Casablanca, the works of the Council of Arab Interior

Ministers continues. A radio correspondent says in this respect: The Council of Arab Interior Ministers has continued its work this morning in Casablanca during a closed session which was presided over by Mr Driss Basri, minister of interior and information. The session is still continuing, and it is not known what points are being discussed by the ministers. We remind you that the agenda of the Council includes the study of an Arab security plan and styrategy in addition to the decisions and recommendations of the meetings and conferences which were held by various establishments under the auspices of the Council. As decided, a new secretary general of the Council and four of his assistants will be elected. Also new directors will be appointed to some centers emanating from the Council of Arab Interior Ministers.

The incident of the hijacked Libyan civilian aircraft by Israel had repercussions yesterday evening on the council's work when the topic was discussed. A radio correspondent met the Libyan minister of justice Mr Muhammad Muftah.

[Begin Muftah recording] Naturally, all the members of the conference who have heard about the incident — the incident of the hijacking of the Libyan civilian aircraft while on its scheduled flight from Tripoli to Damascus when it was intercepted by Israeli aircraft under the protection of theU.S. Aircraft carriers in international waters in the Mediterranean — considered it no surprise coming from the Israelis. Thank God the picture has now become clear who the terrorists are and who the victims of terrorism are. [end recording]

We point out that the Libyan delegation presented a proposal to the Council suggesting that an Arab conference on terrorism be held in Tripoli in coordination with the Council of Arab Interior Ministers.

Libyan Assails U.S.'Terrorism'

LD051904 Tripoli JANA in English
1830 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Eabat, Jumada Awal 25, Feb. 5, Jamahiriyah News Agency — The secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice [Muhammad Mufatah] denounced the terrorist practices and the conspiratory schemes plotted by the U.S. Administration against the Libyan Arab people, its revolutionary choices and its giant accomplishments achieved by the effect of the Great Al Fateh revolution.

In an address to the opening session of the 4th round of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers in Rabat, he confirmed that the viscious imperialist attack headed by the leader of international terrorism-America-against the Libyan Arab people is aimed at forcing the Libyan Arab people to give up its revolutionary progressive stances in support of the freedom, struggle and liberation of nations and the spreading of freedom everywhere.

He said: 'Nations' struggle for freedom and the imposition of justice and equality mean in the dictionary of U.S. imperialism international terrorism. Resisting U.S. policies and confronting its terrorist schemes also mean 'international terrorism', in the conception of the U.S. 'Black House'. We are obliged to work seriously and faithfully to resist the U.S. domination and restrict it'.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice laid down the number of horrific terrorist crimes the U.S. administration committed against nations and the plotting of coup attempts to shake the stability and security of nations, get rid of their popular leaders, abort the international liberation movements and the imposing of economic measures, the last of which was against the Libyan Arab people.

Frayj: No Mideast Peace Talks Without USSR, PLO

PM051415 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian
30 Jan 86 p 10

[Telephone interview with Mayor of Bethlehem Ilyas Frayj by Magdi Allam; date not given]

[Text] On Tuesday [28 January] Mayor of Bethlehem Ilyas Frayj, a moderate representative of the Palestinian movement, received Defense Minister Spadolini, who had just spoken about "the Palestinian people's legitimate right to a homeland" to the World Jewish Congress in Jerusalem. "Spadolini's initiative in coming to Bethlehem was valuable; we had a useful meeting; he supports the peace process, albeit from an equidistant stance. Although he is not a PLO supporter, he is certainly not an enemy of the Palestinian people," Frayj told me over the telephone.

With regard to the actual meeting he said: "I told Spadolini that without a fair and decent solution of the Palestinian issue there will be no peace or stability throughout the Mideast region, and I voiced to him my condemnation of the terrorist actions that have hit Italy, from the 'Achille Lauro' hijacking to the Rome airport massacre."

Frayj's attention is centered mainly on Amman, where talks have been continuing since Sunday between King Husayn and PLO leader 'Arafat.

[Allam] The PLO faces a dilemma: It must either make a clear and final decision on Resolutions 242 and 338 and continue with the negotiation option in accord with Jordan, or abandon the peace process. What do you advise 'Arafat to do?

[Frayj] The 'Arafat-Husayn talks are still in progress — which prompts me to refrain from any comment. However, I consider myself satisfied with certain signs which indicate progress toward a positive accord.

[Allam] Do you mean by a 'positive accord' the PLO's recognition of the two resolutions?

[Frayj] Yes, I am in favor of recognition of the two resolutions in exchange for the PLO's participation in peace negotiations within the context of an international conference, and the Palestinian people's self-determination within the context of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord of last February.

[Allam] 'Arafat and other top PLO leaders fear that the present political maneuvers are aimed not at peace but at eliminating the PLO by dismantling it from inside, because in their opinion the suggested international conference is a long way from becoming a reality.

[Frayj] There will be no peace negotiations except within the context of an international conference, with the participation of the Soviet Union and of Palestinian representatives authorized by the PLO. This must be clear to everyone. I urge, however, the earliest elimination of the obstacles to convening the conference, since the time factor is not on the side of the Palestinians of the interior, subject to Israeli occupation — this, of course, without jeopardizing our principles.

[Allam] Israeli Prime Minister Peres has said that if the Palestinians in the occupied territories were to be given a choice between 'Arafat without a solution of their predicament and a solution without 'Arafat, they would opt for the latter. What do you think?

[Frayj] Actually we do not regard the solution of the Palestinian issue as confined to the population of the occupied territories; we believe that it must bring an end to the tragedy of the entire Palestinian people, both inside and outside the occupied territories. The PLO is the Palestinian people's representative, and it is the PLO that must have a fundamental and principal role in any peace negotiations.

[Allam] Peres has warned that if the PLO does not agree to King Husayn's requests, the peace negotiations will go ahead anyway between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation including Palestinian representatives of the occupied territories among whom he named you specifically. What is your answer to that?

[Frayj] No Palestinian will ever agree to negotiate without the PLO's authorization.

UAE Paper Interviews PLO's Qaddumi in New York

GF041557 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
4 Feb 86 p 17

[Report on interview with Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu al-Lutf, chairman of the PLO Political Department, by *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent Anita (Sonokjyan) in New York — date not given]

[Excerpts] Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu al-Lutf, chairman of the PLO Political Department, hinted that despite the collapse of the Amman negotiations on peace efforts in the Middle East region under U.S. auspicies the PLO can accept some necessary conditions for its participation in the peace process without sacrificing the basic Palestinian objectives. In an interview with him in New York, Qaddumi said that there is another chance for U.S. negotiators who are trying to gather the PLO, the Palestinians, Jordan, Israel, and the United States at the negotiating table in the future. Elaborating to *AL-ITTIHAD* on the reasons which led to the failure in Amman, Qaddumi left the door open wide for remedying the essential point of difference between the Palestinian and U.S. sides concerning the famous UN Resolution 242. The Security Council's resolution passed 19 years ago calls for Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories it occupied in 1967 and stresses the right of the Jewish state to existence within a safe territory. The PLO says that it rejects the resolution passed in 1967 because it makes no reference to the Palestinians and their national rights and because it only makes reference to the refugees. The PLO has been continuously committed to its political rights to existence.

At the time Qaddumi declared a coming positive step for the negotiators he also expressed pessimism on the real chances of peace in the region through the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, which he considers absolutely the worst administration to deal so negatively with the Palestinian people. Qaddumi said: The Americans can do one basic thing. They can improve Resolution 242 by going to the Security Council to present proposals as they did in 1967. They can add the national Palestinian rights and other things that they want to add in order to make the Security Council's resolution acceptable. But, the insistence of the United States that the PLO should accept Resolution 242 as it is un acceptable.

AL-ITTIHAD's interview with Qaddumi was held in New York on the last day of a week of negotiations between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and King Husaym, who did not agree to the way of ensuring a role for the PLO in the peace efforts in the Middle East. As a reaction to the U.S.-Jordanian insistence that the PLO should necessarily recognize Resolution 242 in return for its participation in the international peace conference, the PLO informed King Husayn of its proposals and King Husayn in turn informed Washington of these proposals. In an attempt to obtain guarantees the PLO asked Washington to issue a statement calling for an effective international conference for peace in the Middle East and recognizing the right of the Palestinians to self-determination within the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. The PLO proposed that it will openly declare its recognition of Resolution 242 after this statement is issued. However, during the course of these indirect negotiations between the United States and the PLO, in a message it sent to King Husayn the United States rejected the PLO position. Meanwhile, the PLO says that the Jordanians are insistenly urging the PLO to recognize Resolution 242 without the U.S. explanatory statements.

The PLO believes that the Amman agreements signed on 11 February 1985 represent the maximum concessions it can make. These agreements do not refer to an independent Palestinian state and call for the self-determination of Palestinians within the framework of a confederation with Jordan. Moreover, they urge an Arab-Israeli settlement based on all the UN resolutions without particular reference to Israel or Resolution 242. At that time, the Jordanians emphasized to the Palestinians that this was the last concession they would be asked to make and that it would quickly activate the peace efforts — within months. However, the year declared by Ronald Reagan as the year of peace in the Middle East — 1985 — has passed without any fundamental developments.

In light of the recent developments and having observed the 2-week meetings of the UN Security Council which discussed the Israeli violations of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, Faruq Qaddumi has changed the PLO's way of thinking. Now, it is particularly concentrating on the U.S. role in the region concerning peace opportunities. Qaddumi said: We expected the U.S. veto against the Islamic proposal on Jerusalem. The Americans veto any proposal we present, irrespective of its contents. Whether or not we changed the proposals or their expressions or words the U.S. representative's intention was to use the right of veto against our plan.

The United States has always given us the impression that it rejects the idea of discussions and prefers a pertinent resolution issued by the UN Security Council chairman. Its objections were made clear from the beginning of the discussions. They were against discussing a resolution that the United Nations would adopt and issue in its own language. A resolution issued by the council chairman reflects the desire and concensus of member states but does not carry the weight of a resolution adopted by members, to which every UN member must adhere.

Qaddumi said: "This is the current U.S. policy: support, protection, and aid for Israel. The U.S. veto stopped any action the United Nations may have taken concerning the draft plan. In other words, this meant denuding the UN Security Council from its role as a tool to protect international peace and security. This is not a new policy but an escalation of an old policy. The current situation is dissimilar to that of the Jimmy Carter era, when there was some flexibility."

Qaddumi added: "The Reagan administration seems to be completely averse to the council playing its role within its qualified framework as a primary organization through which world peace and security can be preserved. This trend has been intentionally adopted by the Reagan administration. Moreover, we observe that the United States has escalated its campaign against the PLO. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz requested that the European countries renounce any connections with the European-Palestinian dialogue. The United States has also exerted pressures on moderate Arab countries to make the PLO offer concessions."

Doubting that the U.S. administration is sincere in its peace efforts in the region, Qaddumi added: Reagan's administration has been the most radical of the U.S. administrations in dealing with the PLO and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. It is completely prejudiced. The American people must not be prejudiced against the Palestinians. Why is the United States biased toward Israel 100 percent, if it wishes to really participate in peace efforts.

It is not easy for the United States to amend Resolution 242. If the Americans can improve this resolution to include the Palestinians' rights, including the right to self-determination, this would be progress on their part. President Carter had stated that Palestinian refugees have some rights to a national homeland, but what was the reaction of the Zionist lobby in the United States? New York Mayor Edward Koch sent a protest letter and refused to shake hands with Carter. This forced Carter to make some amendments in the speech he was going to deliver at the United Nations in 1977.

Qaddumi added: I do not think that progress will be made in the Middle East during Reagan's term. Rather, I predict an escalation of tension in the region.

In a speech in the Security Council after the U.S. veto on Jerusalem 2 days ago, Qaddumi said: Zionism will be the reason for a break-out of World War III and the United States should bear responsibility. We should not wait for another administration, but we should continue our armed, political, and diplomatic struggle to regain our rights.

Qaddumi accused the Americans of being the reason behind the failure of the Amman agreement. He said: During the 16th PNC session, we agreed that future Palestinian relations with Jordan will be part of a confederation. The PLO Executive Committee also was authorized to hold a dialogue with Jordan, because we have distinguished relations with the Jordanian people. Although we reached a joint formula for action with Jordan which can be a basis for joint moves, the U.S. administration has blocked the peace process by making this formula useless. The Americans also promised that they would meet with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in which the Palestinian delegation will consist of PNC members; the United States later rejected this idea and asked the PLO for more concessions — to recognize Resolution 242 and Israel's right to exist and to condemn violence. Before the United States was to talk with the PLO, King Husayn believed that the PLO might recognize Resolution 242. But King Husayn was told that our stand on Resolution 242 has not changed, because this resolution does not constitute a suitable basis for a just settlement to the Middle East crisis.

Qaddumi continued: It is necessary that other parties in the conflict accept an international conference as a framework for negotiations in which the two superpowers will participate and in which the PLO will attend on an equal footing with the other parties to the conflict. If the United States and Israel do not accept this, they will be obstructing international efforts to achieve peace. For the Americans, even the basic issue of Palestinian people's rights is not acceptable. This means that the United States rejects the Paelstinian people's right to self-determination. The United States should at least accept the basic ideas to guarantee success for the conference in which all parties will be treated on an equal footing and in which UN resolutions will be the basis for negotiations. If the United States rejects this, it will be trying to isolate the PLO.

Qaddumi also discussed the role of the Arab countries toward the U.S. stance and said: The international pressure on Israel and the United States is very important, first by the Arabs then by the European and the nonaligned countries. The differences between the Arab countries are nearing an end. Therefore we in the PLO are doing our utmost for the convening of an Arab summit conference to realize Arab reapprochement. The first step was between Syria and Jordan. Yes, the PLO is responsible; we took part in the Casablanca summit and called on resolving the differences between the Arab countries. The second step, which is the most important, is to end the conflict between Iraq and Iran.

Since 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, which resulted in the "Cairo declaration," it seems that there are no differences in the stances of the PLO and President Mubarak on a peaceful settlement. Qaddumi considers that "a development in the Egyptian stance toward the PLO." Qaddumi said: Truly Mubarak has refrained from stirring up the question of the Palestinians right to self-determination as stated in the second part of the Camp David accords with the Israelis. Qaddumi gives precedence to Arab and Palestinian efforts to "help Egypt to come out of the Camp David anarchy and to become less dependent on U.S. support and to eliminate the obstacles that prevent Egypt from returning to the Arab League."

The head of the PLO Political Department added: I do not think that Jordan will be able to change the U.S. behavior. Those who are able to pressure the United States are the Saudis and other oil-producing countries. The Saudis can do numerous things with the Americans and can use their influence and friendship with the Americans to pressure them in order to at least accept the Palestinians' right to self-determination. Egypt can also have influence if it can break the shackles of Camp David.

Concerning the European role, Qaddumi said: The Europeans were subject to the pressures of the U.S. administration and partially retreated from their former stance in the EEC. Since the Vienna declaration, they have become more negative instead of being more active.

During the recent visit of Shimon Peres, Israeli prime minister, to Europe, the European countries did not practice any kind of pressure on the Israelis to negotiate with the PLO. Instead they lauded Peres for his endeavors to hold negotiations with King Husayn and the moderate Palestinians not connected with the PLO

Anyway, it has become clear that the United States endeavors to hold direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan with minimum Palestinian participation and is also doing its best to jeopardize PLO efforts to participate in an international peace conference. In his latest press statement on this issue, Reagan stressed the "role of moderate Arabs who like peace" and said that though it does not disregard the possibility of the participation of the Soviet Union in the peace efforts, sometimes the United States still prefers direct negotiations between the concerned parties. He said: We are trying to conduct a process similar to that which took place between Egypt and Israel. Reagan stressed that PLO participation depends on Yasir 'Arafat. He said: Mr 'Arafat knows what is preventing him from participating in the peace negotiations. It is a fact that he refuses to recognize Israel's right to exist as a state. How can anyone deal with someone who talks about peace among the region's peoples while denying even Israel's right to exist.

The under secretary of the U.S. State Department for Middle East Affairs last December more clearly defined the principles through which 'Arafat can participate in the international conference. This official said: The conditions which we specified for a dialogue with the PLO 10 years ago have not changed. .These conditions are the acceptance of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and the recognition of Israel's right to exist. If the PLO accepts these conditions we can initiate a dialogue with a high level. However, it shoud be made clar, and 'Arafat knows this, that this does not ensure a position for him in the peace efforts.

Qaddumi concluded by determining the work awaiting the Arabs. He said: The most important things are the consolidation of the national unity inside the PLO and the escalation of the armed struggle inside the occupied territories.

Joint Forces Attack Israeli, Lahd Positions

JN041938 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The Palestinian-Nationalist Lebanese joint forces have carried out a series of operations against enemy positions, patrols, and agents in southern Lebanon in retaliation for the Zionist authorities' unjust practices against villages in southern Lebanon. A joint forces group has attacked a patrol from agent Antoine Lahd's militias in an area between 'Aytat al-Sha'b and Rumaysh. Four of the Patrol's elements were wounded.

Another group launched a rocket attack on a position jointly held by the enemy and its agents on the (Barghis) triangle. A number of enemy personnel were wounded. In the township of Marun al-Ra's, the joint forces attacked a vehicle belonging to enemy intelligence and killed its occupants.

On the road leading to the Township of Kafr Killa, an enemy foot patrol was attacked with machineguns by the joint forces. An explosive charge also went off as an enemy vehicele passed on the road of the township of Al-Qulay'ah. The enemy personnel and its agents were wounded. On another level, the Zionist enemy's artillery pounded the Habbush and 'Arab Salim areas. At the same time, enemy forces stormed a number of house in the township of Balat and arrested a number of Lebanese citizens.

Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting Set for Next Month

AU041222 Paris AFP in English 1215 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Vienna, Feb 4 (AFP) — An extraordinary ministerial meeting of the 1-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has been called for next month, it was announced here today.

The news was given during the current OPEC meeting here by Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifa and the United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mani Sa'id al'Utayba.

The decision to call next month's meeting, for which no date or venue was given, came from the special ministerial committee which began talks yesterday.

The current gathering has shown up deep divisions within OPEC on how to react to the continuing sharp drop in oil rates on the open markets.

Mr. al-'Utayba said today: "I am satisfied, and we could not do more."

Mr. al-Khalifa said he had "not expected much" from the meeting.

Al-'Utaybah Says OPEC Has Arrived at Crossroads

PM041007 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Feb 86 p 1

[Unattributed interview with UAE Petroleum and Minieral Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah in London; date not given]

[Text][Question] What issues will OPEC's ministerial committee discuss when it meets in Vienna on 3 February and how do you assess the committee's meeting and its possible results?

[Answer] The Ministerial committee will discuss ways and means which OPEC could use to protect its share of the oil market. The committee will view the matter from a special angle which is that in the present circumstances OPEC is above all interested in safeguarding its own interests. It is not OPEC's responsibility to defend everyone's interests when others are not willing to share the responsibility of safeguarding these interests. That is why we believe that the oil market is now at a crucial stage and historic crossroads which will determine the oil market sources and the future of the oil industry for many years to come. We have already warned and we have spoken of the need for cooperation between all OPEC and non-OPEC producers to protect the oil market and protect the interests of the peoples of these states whose economies depend almost totally on that sole product. Our appeals, however, have fallen on deaf ears and have not been taken seriously.

[Question] What is the UAE's attitude toward the current development in the international oil market and what effect have these developments had on your oil policy?

[Answer] The UAE firmly and strongly believes that there is still some time left for remedying the situation but it is running short. All OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing states should join hands, shoulder their historic responsibilities, and move to support the oil market which, as we have seen, is beginning to stagger. The producing states are beginning to lose many of the gains made over 25 years of OPEC struggle. Unless these states quickly take collective action to protect the oil market by controlling production there will be a devastating catastrophe which will hit most producers, especially the non-OPEC states producing at full capacity.

[Question] Do you see any possibility of stopping the deterioration in the oil market and what level are oil prices likely to reach at this stage?

[Answer] As we have seen, oil prices are beginning to fall sharply. No oil expert, or anyone who knows anything about oil, can say how low prices are likely to go as long as more and more supplies are flooding the oil market in quantities by far exceeding demand. If this situation continues we should not be surprised to see oil prices falling to lower levels. Amid all these successive developments we must say that there are some encouraging signs in some non-OPEC states which have shown a willingness to cooperate with OPEC to protect the market. I cannot name these states because it is still too early but it must be said here that what we had warned against is now happening before our eyes. OPEC has abandoned the policy of defending its interests as well as the interests of others. It is now looking after its own interests only, keeping a certain share of the oil market, and not allowing the loss of that share which it has had for many years.

[Question] Bearing in mind the current situation in the oil market, does OPEC's call for an increase of its 16 million barrels a day quota still stand today? What quota would OPEC accept at this stage?

[Answer] OPEC's quota is not 16 million barrels a day nor is it 23 or 24 percent of the oil market, which is what it was at the end of last year. OPEC's quota is quite different now. It is also not two-thirds of the market, which is what it was in 1979-1980. It is somewhere in between. This is what the committee will discuss. We are very flexible in this respect because, once again, we want to prove our sense of responsibility. What everyone should realize, however, is that OPEC's share is not one-third of the oil market demand. It is more than that and we are beginning to restore some of it through free competition in the oil market which we will continue to do until we achieve a level which we consider to be OPEC's fair share.

[Question] What about the Gulf consultations regarding the oil market? Has it been agreed not to interfere with the market for the time being and to let it find its own level without OPEC interference?

[Answer] Gulf states consultations are continuing but there is no agreement at present. There is understanding that the matter should be left to the ministerial committee formed during last December's conference. It is the committee scheduled to meet in Vienna.

[Question] How do you assess Britain's position against intervention to stop the market slide and its continued high production level?

[Answer] We understand Britain's political and economic circumstances just as we understand the circumstances of the OPEC and non-OPEC oil producing states. We are continuously holding consultations with our friends inside and outside OPEC. We welcome any cooperation from Britain to the degree deemed appropriate by the British Government, but we must say here that all producers should shoulder a share of the responsibility equal to their share of the oil market.

[Question] Could one say that the price war has actually started?

[Answer] That depends on what you mean by price war. If by price war you mean letting the oil market determine the price then yes this is what has actually happened. We in OPEC are trying to adhere to the official prices as much as possible. Failing that we will sell our share of the production at market prices. The matter differs from one country to another. Some countries have completely abandoned official prices while others are still partially sticking to them. The general trend, however, is to abandon the official prices so long as this fast difference between official and market prices exists. It is impossible to sell a single barrel at the official price when large quantities are available in the market at a lower price.

Minister Says Ecuador Plans To Float Oil Prices

PA240210 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish
2300 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Xavier Espinoza has announced that the Ecuadoran Government has decided to float its export oil price and eliminate the fixed official price of $26.15. The minister asserted that this new measure will be enforced on 1 February 1986 as part of a strategy to counter the oil market crisis, which has led to a drop in crude oil prices of all the oil-exporting countries.

BAHRAIN

Journal Notes USSR Role in Region, PDRY

GF051703 [Editorial Report] Bahraini weekly magazine *SADA AL-USBU'* in its 4 February 86 issue on pages 26 and 27 carries a 1,950-word article by Ma'mun Yasin entitled "From Afghanistan to Southern Yemen." The article reviews Soviet aid to Egypt, which bolstered the struggle of the Algerian people's struggle and other revolutionary movements in the Arab world. The article says: "But we hope that the Russians will free themselves from their strategy of linking the peoples with their ideology in return for the aid presented, because the Russians will thus have freed the people from a colonialist influence but place them under the effect of another kind of colonialism." The paper then provides a historial review of World War II events in Iran, Poland, Hungary, Albania, and Afghanistan, including the Soviet role in each country. The article then discusses the situation in the PDRY, relating the events there since the installment of the first president, Qahtan al-Sha'bi, through 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's era.

Concluding, the article says: "'Ali Nasir Muhammad became head of state, secretary general of the party, and chairman of the Council of Ministers. He adopted a realistic policy by improving relations with the Arab countries and adopting an overture policy toward the European countries. He also maintained a special relationship with the Soviet Union. He stopped aid to the opposition groups in northern Yemen and strived to develop a country which is regarded as one of the poorest in the world. The opposition within the party and the army did not accept this. That is why he was charged with possessing too much authority. He gave up some, hoping to unify the ranks and receive cooperation for attaining progress in the country. But political sentiment and the Soviet plan succeeded. The catastrophe then befell the PDRY and sides resorted to weapons. My view is that the YAR made a mistake by adopting a neutral side and by refusing to come to the aid of moderate Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad before he was attacked violently by the Communists, and before they truncated a dear part of the Arab homeland. At this point regret will be useless."

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS Reports U.S. Examining Events in PDRY

GF051635 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
4 Feb 86 pp 1, 20

[Text] Paris — Western Diplomatic sources have revealed to *AL-QABAS* a very important secret: The Reagan administration is seriously studying, for the first time, the possibility of interfering in one way or another in the struggle currently raging in the PDRY. These sources affirmed that the Reagan administration held secret contacts during the past few days with several West European countries and with Western and Arab parties concerned about the situation in the PDRY. During these contacts the administration raised some questions which indicate that there is a discussion inside the U.S. Administration on the possibility of changing the PDRY into a front against the Soviet Union.

These sources told *AL-QABAS* that the Reagan administration sees two developments causing interest in the PDRY. The first is that this country is witnessing an unprecedented rupture and split in the ranks of the ruling party, the Armed Forces, and the tribes since the Soviet Union succeeded in imposing domination in the PDRY. The second is that there are forces at present represented by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and other elements that reject a regime in Aden that is backed by the Soviet Union, and are ready to fight a war for overthrowing and eliminating such a regime. The United States has never before had such a chance in the PDRY. On this basis, intensive contacts were made during the past few days between Washington and several European and Arab parties concerned about the situation in the PDRY to study the possibility of the Reagan administration offering direct or indirect assistance to certain forces inside the PDRY to enable them to work and move against the Soviets. These forces are not necessarily represented by 'Ali Nasir and his allies, but can somehow take part in any offensive by the PDRY chairman against the current regime.

Informed European sources told *AL-QABAS* that the Reagan administration has not yet made a final decision in this regard and that it is still studying the various aspects of the situation, trying to take advantage of the advice of some of its friends and allies. The sources pointed out that the Reagan administration will not interfere in the PDRY by offering military or nonmilitary assistance to the forces which are fighting against the current regime in Aden unless there is an actual chance to launch a long war of attrition against interference of the Soviets and Moscow's there, as is currently the case in Afghanistan, where the U.S. Administration is supplying some organizations of the Afghan mujahidin with weapons and military equipment to fight against Soviet domination.

These sources said that the Reagan administration was advised by a major West European country not to interfere in any form in the PDRY. The sources said that the major European country informed the Reagan administration that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will not hesitate to send Soviet or Cuban troops and experts, or experts and troops from Moscow's allies, to Aden to prevent the downfall of the PDRY in the hands of elements hostile to Moscow and to prevent the success of any direct or indirect U.S. interference in this country. The sources pointed out that until now the Soviets have been keen to reassure all the concerned countries and parties that they do not intend to interfere directly in the PDRY or repeat the experience of Afghanistan and that the new regime in Aden will pursue the same policy of good neighborliness and open bridges with the neighboring Arab countries. However, these European sources told *AL-QABAS* that the major European country which warned Washington against interference in Aden has information indicating that Gorbachev cannot allow radical changes in the PDRY that would eliminate Soviet domination there, and that he will endeavor to prevent this by force even if this matter affects the Soviet overture toward the Gulf countries. Until now, of course, this situation has not been a possibility. However, a new development causing concern is that the Reagan administration has begun to examine the situation and to study the possibility of somehow interfering in the events in the PDRY.

An informed West European source has told *AL-QABAS* that it was not by chance that in a recent press conference PDRY acting Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas made an appeal to the United States expressing the PDRY's readiness to establish cordial relations with Washington if it respects "our sovereignty and independence". It is known that there are no diplomatic relations between Aden and Washington.

The European source added that this appeal, of course, is aimed at expressing a moderate and non-extremist attitude of the new regime in Aden, and at preventing the United States and any other force from exploiting the yet unsettled struggle in this country or interfering in any form. According to this source Moscow has undoubtedly received information indicating that the Reagan administration is studying the possibility of interfering in the PDRY. Therefore, it will move on different fronts to prevent this country from turning into a new arena of struggle between the two superpowers.

These contacts and consultations are being made at a time when all the Arab and international parties concerned about the situation in the PDRY are now waiting for the next stage in the bloody struggle in this country. Will the next stage witness the success of the current regime supported by Moscow in holding complete control over the situation, or will it witness a counterattack by Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad that may pave the way for several Arab and non-Arab parties to interfere in the fighting? As a matter of fact, according to information obtained by *AL-QABAS* from informed Arab and Western sources, the current situation in the PDRY is characterized by the following basic facts:

1. 'Ali Nasir Muhammad still hopes to regain power in Aden. He has not yet closed the bridges of dialogue and contacts with Moscow, although the Soviet authorities are strongly supporting the new regime and although Soviet authorities have allowed the PDRY Embassy in Moscow to distribute a statement to the newspapers calling for putting 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on trial for his crimes and accusing 'Ali Nasir of planning a plot in coordination with the reactionary and imperialist circles for the purpose of liquidating the ruling party and its leadership. Despite this, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has not closed the bridges of dialogue with Moscow. But at the same time, he is trying to gain the support of other countries and other Arab parties, whether these countries and parties are friends of Moscow such as Algeria, Libya, and Ethiopia, or not friends [of Moscow], such as some Gulf countries. *AL-QABAS* has learned that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is concentrating his efforts on the position of Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile-Mariam, either to maintain the bridges of dialogue with Moscow or to obtain military aid for the forces loyal to him in case a decision is taken to launch a major offensive on Aden to recover it. Informed European sources have affirmed to *AL-QABAS* that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left for Addis Ababa last Wednesday on board the same plane he used when he was PDRY chairman, and that he spent several days in the Ethiopian capital and held intensive talks with Ethiopian leader Mengistu before returning to the YAR and traveling from there to his country. Perhaps, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's major weak point is that the troops loyal to him do not possess heavy weapons and equipment. They possess only light arms.

2. Meanwhile, PDRY acting Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas moved and made contacts with several Arab countries in an attempt to ensure genuine Arab recognition of his leadership and his legitimacy.

However, it is obvious that Moscow's friends and allies in the Arab region along with other countries are confused over the situation in Aden, as the Arab states have not yet recognized the new regime in the PDRY and are waiting for things to become more clear or waiting for certain developments.

3. The Soviets are supporting contacts made by Al-'Attas by reassuring some countries and by warning others. It is noted in this regard that the Soviet Union is concentrating its efforts to prevent the YAR from interfering in the fighting in favor of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

For this reason, the Soviet ambassador in Sanaa was keen to meet with YAR President 'Ali Abdallah Salih three times last week to warn him against interfering and to confirm to him that the new regime in Aden is keen to continue dialogue and cooperation with Sanaa.

The concern over the YAR position prompted Gorbachev to send a high-ranking Soviet official, Viktor Mal'tsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, to Sanaa last week carrying a message from him to the YAR president. At the same time, Moscow began to send weapons and military equipment to Aden. For example, it shifted to the PDRY two shipments of weapons originally heading to Addis Ababa.

4. There is ambiguity over the identity of the members of the new leadership in Aden. The only distinguished figure announced is Haydar al-'Attas, the acting chairman.

Apart from that it is not known who the leadership consists of, or whether or not it is correct that 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il is currently being treated in Moscow from serious wounds preventing him from talking. This ambiguity causes some circles to say that the struggle inside the new leadership in Aden has not completely been decided.

5. The PDRY is in bad need of economic and financial aid estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars due to the damages sustained by this country during the 2 weeks of fighting. Of course, the Soviet Union cannot ensure this aid even if it cooperates with its allies in the socialist bloc. Several Arab countries should contribute to eliminating the damages, rebuilding this country, and activating its institutions. However, this cannot be done before the situation becomes completely clear, before the new regime controls the situation throughout the country, and before it proves that it is a legitimate regime that is serious in cooperating and holding dialogue with the neighboring countries. This has not yet been achieved. Thus, it seems that the PDRY is on the verge of the second stage of power struggle. This will be the basic and decisive stage embodying all possibilities.

•

PDRY

Acting Chairman Al-'Attas Addresses Abyan Rally

GF052058 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Speech by Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, during a popular rally in Abyan Governorate on 5 February — recorded; monitored with fair reception on 11880 khz and 11770 khz and with poor to very poor reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] O masses of this bold governorate, O masses of Abyan Governorate: At first it pleases me to extend to you heartfelt and warm greetings from your comrade members of the YSP Political Bureau, the YSP Central Committee, and the Supreme People's Council Presidium. [applause] In this grand rally we have to offer greetings of respect and loftiness to our martyrs who fell in defense of the revolution, in defense of its principles, in defense of the YSP and the PDRY. [applause and chanting of slogans] We pledge to them on your behalf. We pledge to Comrades Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar [applause], Salih Muslih Qasim, Ali Sha'i Hadi, and other martyrs, that we will always remain strugglers defending the same principles for which they fell as martyrs. [applause] Yes, these are the principles of the YSP and the Yemeni revolution for the defense of which our comrades fell: for the sake of consolidating the party legitimacy, for strengthening the internal system, and for consolidating the party program, the party documents, and the course and line of the socialist revolution. [applause]

Brother citizens, plotter 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique have for a long time been slowly and quietly plotting to smash the revolution from inside, to eliminate the revolution in the PDRY, and to eliminate the YSP and the revolution's progressive course in the PDRY. They have long been working for that. The indications of this design began at the exceptional congress of the YSP. Plotter 'Ali Nasir Muhammad worked to overthrow the historical leadership of the YSP from leading the revolution at the first line of the YSP Political Bureau. He brought in elements who were less linked to the revolution and to its historical leadership, thinking that he would be able to pave his way to complete his design in smashing the revolution; but he was mistaken in his calculations. The YSP, which has been consolidated through struggle, managed to foil all his designs and all his plots. The leading ranks of the YSP and its bases lay in wait for these designs and foiled them one after another. Thus, 'Ali Nasir found out that there was no hope for him to continue his conspiratorial designs to smash the revolution from inside, despite all the efforts he exerted to collude with the counterrevolutionary forces consisting of elements that have been acting against the revolution in the PDRY since its first days. He allowed them to join the party and its various institutions. However, all the strugglers were lying in wait for the designs of 'Ali Nasir and for his bad intentions against the YSP and its revolution. Thus, when he found himself at a deadend, he took the initiative of carrying out his abortive coupist attempt, thinking that he was so strong that he could eliminate the party and its leadership. Thus, on the morning of Monday 13 January, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad carried out his dirty liquidation act against the leadership of the YSP and against the comrade members of the YSP Political Bureau while they were in the meeting hall of the YSP Political Bureau.

He does not respect the party. Had he respected the party he would not adopt this act that contradicts the simplest party, Arab, Yemeni, and humanitarian traditions. He thought that by perpetrating such an act, he would be able to control power in the PDRY. Yes, he tried to assassinate a group of our comrades. But, the YSP — which took root in the field of struggle — begat a number of strugglers who were all converted into 'Antar, Ali Sha'i, and Salih Muslih. They led the struggle and continued the procession. The YSP Political Bureau managed to bring the situation under control. Our Armed Forces, brought up by the YSP, succeeded in foiling the coupist plot led by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on 13 January 1986.

Brother citizens: Our YSP, our masses and our Armed Forces managed to foil this abortive coupist plot led by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. This made him loathed. This made him leave the PDRY territories and settle into the role that he will have until his (?last days), yes, a role with the enemies of the revolution, with the enemies of the progressive regime in the PDRY. I would like to stress that the PDRY masses — who foiled this plot and strongly confronted those who plotted, concocted, and executed the plot — can continue to advance in accordance with the course of the YSP, in accordance with the revolution in the PDRY, and in accordance with the principles of the YSP and its [word indistinct], its platform, and its internal structure.

Brother citizens, among the conspiratorial plots of the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad against the PDRY people and after he failed to impose his conspiratorial plots and to impose his absolute monopoly on the YSP, he tried to (?know) the dispute — the dispute that focused on the implemenetation and execution of the YSP documents on its economic policies, on its internal policies, and on its foreign policies. [sentence as heard] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique tried to violate the YSP's economic policies through extravagance in the [word indistinct], in the nonproductive projects, believing that through this policy he would inundate the country with many economic problems and difficulties. The policy he adopted internally through dealing with the party cadres and the masses, was one of temptation, production dispersion, and rule. He failed in his policy because the party cadres and the masses of the people in the PDRY rose to the level of responsibility. They rose, became hardened, and were trained in the melee of the battles and struggle led by the YSP and the revolution since its early emergence on 14 October 1963.

The revolution has experienced numerous difficulties and problems which it has been able to overcome. Perhaps, the most major of these difficulties and problems has been the attempts of counterrevolutionary forces, and the forces of imperialism and reaction to harm the revolution and our national sovereignty. The masses of the people were able, however, to rise as one man, from one end of the country to the other. They were actually able to defend the revolution in all its phases and to reject 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's attempts to drive a wedge between the citizens of the same district and the same governorate and to provoke ancient fanaticisms, colonialist methods, and various arrogant methods in his dealing with numerous matters to ensure that he would continue to rule.

He also used these methods to cover up his policies and conceal the true nature of the conflict which almost took place in the YSP in the PDRY, a conflict for the sake of the revolution, a conflict for the revolutionary policy line, a conflict to consolidate and strengthen the revolutionary policy line in the PDRY. He tried to veil it, to give it various forms. He failed, however, and perhaps the biggest [coughs] proof of that is the foiling of this large, extensive conspiracy aimed at our system in the PDRY. That the conspiracy was foiled by the masses of the people, by the workers, peasants, students, and soldiers, is sufficient proof that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's policies on dividing the masses and the people by using all methods have not succeeded. The people have proven, as they always do, that they support the YSP, its goals, and principles, the revolution in the PDRY, the progressive regime in the PDRY, and the policy planned by the YSP, which has been baptized with blood at numerous stages through the defense of the revolution and its policy. [applause]

Brother citizens, perhaps the Abyan Governorate has suffered the most from the policies of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his supporters. Despite the aritificial appearances built up by Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad — one of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's major supporters and aides — in the governorate, the basic aspect was executed according to a policy and toward goals for which they schemed. They inundated the governorate in a large undertaking not directly connected with the life of the ordinary citizens, the toilers in this governorate.

The toilers in this governorate want homes, farms, and production. Muhammad 'Ali and his aides attempted to inundate it with appearances. They hastened to build the Martyrs' Square and all of its various branches. Do we need such projects? Or are the masses in the governorate in need of homes, hospitals, and schools? [applause] He was extravagant in building palaces, guest palaces, and rest houses, to the extent that one has the impression when one enters these places that he is living in the days of the thousand and one nights. This was hideous luxury. Where did he get this money? How was he able to sustain this luxury, these houses, these places, these palaces? Do these places take priority, or should priority be given to the building of homes for the peasants, workers, and the toilers in this governorate? [applause]

He imposed his actions on the masses in this governorate beginning by reducing their wages, and eventually by working on these nonproductive projects, when he should have worked and directed the efforts of the toiling masses and their initiatives for the sake of carrying out the projects which directly affect the social and economic life of the masses. However, when Muhammad 'Ali was confronted by the YSP strugglers who criticized this policy, his economic policy, which was patronized by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, he wrongly tried to defend it and attempted to cover up this policy by carrying out, in the final days, a few agricultural projects and by laying the cornerstones of a few housing projects. However, he did not carry out those projects with full conviction. He was under the pressure and criticism of the YSP cadres, leaders, and primary organizations.

Hence, brother citizens, this governorate has suffered much, and Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad attempted to turn it into a den for counterrevolutionary forces and the enemies of the revolution. They attempted to turn it into a hotbed against the revolution, a hotbed that would carry out planned sabotage against the revolution and its goals. However, the YSP, its members and cadres in the governorate, and the masses of the governorate, have proven that they support the YSP, that they support the revolution in the PDRY, that they support the progressive policy, the nationalist progressive system, and the policy of the PDRY — the policy which the YSP has planned and follows.

The masses stood up to and struggled against Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad and against 'Ali Nasir. They stood by the revolution from its very first days. Despite all of the pressure and all of the attempts by Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad to terrorize citizens in this governorate, the citizens threw the arms in his face and refused to fight the revolution. They refused to fight the strugglers. They said: We are prepared to fight the enemies of the revolution, those who want to harm the revolution in the PDRY, and those who want to harm the system in the PDRY, but we are not prepared to fight the revolution or fight the progressive and national system of the PDRY. They threw the weapons at Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad, and the citizens of this valiant governorate arose and rallied around the YSP.

Thus, despite all of his efforts, he was not able to stay for long in this governorate. He was not able to stay in the governorate more than a few hours. [chants of "We sacrifice our lives and our blood for you, o Yemen"]

'Ali Nasir and Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad and their conspiring aides planned to turn the Abyan Governorate into a springboard against the revolution to destroy the national and progressive system in the PDRY. They tried to plan the second alternative to their plot on that basis. The first stage of their plot was to eliminate the leadership of the YSP and to exercise their control over Aden Governorate. They pushed many misled citizens from this governorate and from other governorates into the battle in Aden Governorate, believing they could resolve the situation in their favor in Aden. However, they drew up another plot, a reserve plot — to entrench themselves in this governorate so as to turn it with its wide and long coast and vast area into a springboard against the PDRY.

The first stage of their plot failed with the rallying together of the YSP, the masses of the people, and the Armed Forces in the Aden Governorate who were able to fully and decisively control the situation and halt all of the clashes with minimum losses. So his only choice was to resort to implementing his second scheme — to turn this governorate into another springboard. However, once again he clashed with reality. He clashed with the fact that the YSP in the PDRY is rooted in the conscience, mind, and blood of every citizen in this governorate. Therefore, Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad were not able to carry out their second scheme to turn this governorate into a springboard against the revolution in the PDRY. You have seen and you yourselves have acted and have actually refused to succumb to the orders of Muhammad 'Ali to fight the revolution and to fight the strugglers. You enthusiastically sought to be united with the other governorates, with the YSP.

In this city, in Al-Zinjibar, in Ja'ar, in Lawdar, in Ludda, and throughout this governorate you have refused them, despite their great deception and despite the great terrorism they carried out against many elements and many simple citizens. They tried to make them believe that the others would pursue them, destroy them, and do all sorts of things against them; but the masses were aware of such bad ploys and such malicious schemes. This governorate in particular has gained wide and great experience as a result of many events provoked by counterrevolutionary forces in the belief that they would be able to wipe out the revolution and destroy the system in the PDRY. As a result of such events, the masses in this governorate were experienced and their metal was hardened — they became solid, they became strugglers, they became an indivisible part. [applause] They became an indivisible part of the revolutionary process in the PDRY.

The strugglers of this governorate under the leadership of the YSP and the YSP organization in the governorate, are struggling for the revolution. They place all of their efforts, all of their resources, and all of their human energies at the disposal of the revolution to defend it and to build a developed and progressive PDRY.

As I have said, the masses of this governorate have suffered a great deal. They have suffered more than the masses in the other governorates. For instance, why did he deduct a day's wages each month? Such a deduction will be cancelled for a year; it will be completely cancelled and will not be applied in this governorate. [applause and chants]

We do not want any traces of Muhammad 'Ali and the way in which he tyrannized this governorate. We are confident that this governorate is part of the Republic — an effective and active part. The YSP cadres in this governorate are part of the YSP cadres. For this reason, we not want [coughs] the unjust, tyrannical resolutions made by Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad in the past to continue. At the same time, I am confident that the masses of this governorate, the cadres of the YSP, will implement and adhere to all of the resolutions made by the collective leadership, and the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee, for the good of Yemen, and for the sake of strengthening and developing the PDRY. Such resolutions will be applied to all parts of the Republic, from one end to the other, from Bab al-Mandab to Hawar. As of today, all of these tyrannical, individual resolutions must be immediately abolished.

Once again I affirm our full confidence that the masses of this governorate will commit themselves to the defense of the revolution, and all the resolutions adopted by the YSP Political Bureau and which it will adopt in the future. I affirm that there is no greater proof of this than their full commitment to rally round the collective leadership and the YSP Political Bureau, express their total and absolute rejection of fighting alongside Muhammad 'Ali, and their total and absolute refusal to join the front of the enemies, the front of the counterrevolutionary forces.

Brother citizens, it pleases us [applause] that while we talk of this governorate, we do not forget the ugly effects left by these painful events, and this unsuccessful coupist conspiracy led by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. A large number among the leaders and cadres of the YSP, the leaders of the Armed Forces, and the masses of the people in the PDRY, fell victim to it. Social and economic effects were left by this conspiracy, through the destruction and damage done to numerous economic installations. I am confident that we in the PDRY will roll up our sleeves under the leadership of the YSP to eliminate the effects left by these events. As for the social aspect, the revolution's government, the YSP, will fully care for the families of the martyrs and the wounded, and will extend to them all the necessary care since they struggled and were martyred in defense of the revolution and the YSP principles and goals. They will be given full care. [applause] The YSP will also eliminate all conspiratorial effects, all of the negative aspects left by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique, and will strengthen the unity of the YSP, the unity of the masses of the Yemeni people based on the YSP documents, principles, and goals, and based on the struggle for the safety of the revolution in the PDRY, the progressive regime, and social construction. The YSP will strengthen this unity — the unity of the party and the people which is indispensible to us — so that we will actually be able to eliminate the effects of the coupist attempt and eliminate the policies practiced by 'Ali Nasir.

There are large numbers of people who have been misled. We are confident that they will return and actually be honorable, nationalist citizens who contribute, along with the other citizens in the PDRY, to economic and social construction. The revolution in the PDRY, the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee, will not bring to account those who were misled, but will bring to account those who planned, schemed, carried out, and issued orders for the execution of this conspiracy. The YSP will bring them to account according to the law, the Constitution, and order. We in the PDRY have a party, documents, order, Constitution, and laws. We will bring each to account according to his responsibility, and his actions, and according to the Constitution and the law. No person will be punished without taking account, measures, assistance, or without being allowed to stand before a court of law so that law will have its say in this or that person's case.

We are confident that the large masses and numbers of people who have been estranged will return to their work. Those who have left the Republic will return to become honorable citizens and strugglers in the YSP and the PDRY. We are also confident that the PDRY masses under the YSP will rise and continue the sedulous efforts to remove all the economic effects of this ill-fated conspiracy from our lives in the PDRY. We will exert all efforts side by side and hand in hand so that we can actually remove the effects of this coupist attempt from the economy. We will rebuild the installations and buildings they destroyed. Moreover, we will continue to implement our economic and social plans with zeal, vitality, and determination.

We are used to these qualities in our workers and farmers in their respective positions. We have big tasks before us. We have before us great tasks on the economic and social fronts. I am quite confident that the masses in this governorate and other governorates under the YSP will sedulously and continuously work to remove the effects of this ugly crime and implement the economic and social plans to provide housing, clothing, and food for the citizens in the PDRY. We will build and develop farms, factories, and economic and production projects.

I am confident that the PDRY masses will adhere to the YSP economic and social policy and actively participate through their various popular institutions to implement these policies.

At this great ceremony and in this brave and struggling governorate, we would like to state that the PDRY adheres to its constant principles and struggle and is steadfast in its struggle for development, progress, and the building of socialism. We would like to say that we, the PDRY people — including the party, leaders, masses, and bases — like peace, security, and stability because they are the fundamental condition for building, developing, and (?peace).

However, at the same time, we will not allow anyone at all to try to undermine our security, stability, sovereignty, and dignity. We will not allow him to conspire. We will stand as one man and one force under the YSP to defend the PDRY revolution and its security, independence, sovereignty, and dignity. At the same time, we would like to stress that our internal policy is that expressed by the YSP in its documents, political resolutions, and program.

We would like to stress that our foreign policy is unchanged, but we will follow it in a correct, clear, and creative way that does not allow for deceit and prevarications. We will follow it in a way that will make our policy clear to all our friends and all those who wish to cooperate with the PDRY. We welcome anyone who wants to cooperate with us. Our policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and international solidarity. I would like to affirm to all our brothers in the northern part of the homeland that the destiny and fate of the Yemeni people are the unity of the Yemeni people, their progress and development, and their dignity and honor. The security and stability of Yemen is an inseparable matter and we are continuously working to maintain the security and stability of the homeland so that Yemen, north and south, can move toward progress and toward a high standard of living. We will always want to strengthen and develop our relations with the northern part of the homeland. We will also consolidate our relations with all our brothers in the neighboring countries and with all the countries of the world which respect our sovereignty, independence, and progress. At the same time, we will consolidate and develop our friendly relations with the friendly Soviet Union on the basis of the treaty of friendship between the PDRY and the Soviet Union. [applause]

Reaction to Israeli 'Air Piracy' Reported

Al-'Attas Calls Syria's Al-Asad

GF060417 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Monitored with fair reception on 1188 and 11770 khz]

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau, acting chairman of the of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, telephoned Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Syrian Arab Ba'th Socialist Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic. He expressed the PDRY's denunciation and condemnation of the Israeli air piracy of the airliner which carried the Syrian official and party delegation led by Brother 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party.

Brother al-'Attas expressed the PDRY's solidarity with the fraternal Syrian party, people, and government. He also expressed constant and principled support for the struggle of steadfast Syria in confronting all of the aggressive challenges concocted by the imperialist and Zionist powers designed to weaken the steadfastness of Syria and implement conspirational plots hostile to the just Arab issues.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad expressed Syrian appreciation for the inalienable and principled positions adopted by the PDRY's party, people, and government toward Arab liberation issues. He also expressed Syria's solidarity with the PDRY. He referred to the determination of the Syrian leaders to entrench the relations of struggle between the two fraternal parties and peoples in all fields.

Al-Dali Sends Support Cables

GF051520 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Monitored with fair reception on 11770 khz]

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, Political Bureau member and foreign minister, has sent the following cable to his brother 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of foreign liaison in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya:

We have followed with extreme concern the hijacking of the Libyan civilian airliner by the Zionist enemy, which was forced to land at a military airport in occupied Palestine. The Zionist entity's perpetration of such an act of piracy and terrorism is a serious terrorist act which threatens aviation safety. It is also a strong violation of the international norms and laws. The Zionist enemy would not have dared to carry out such an act without the existing strategic alliance between the entity and the United States of America, which enables the Zionist enemy to carry out its hostile and terrorist acts against the Arab peoples.

While we denounce this terrorist act, we reiterate the PDRY's total support for and solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in confronting all types of imperialist and Zionist aggressions and terrorism.

The foreign minister also sent the following cable to Syrian Foreign Minister Brother Faruq al-Shar':

We have followed with extreme concern the act of the Zionist enemy's hijacking of the Libyan civilian airliner which was carrying the Syrian delegation led by brother 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th

Party, and which was forced by the Israeli military aircraft to land in occupied Palestine.

The Zionist enemy's perpetration of this terrorist act against the Libyan civilian airliner is regarded as a serious terrorist act which threatens the safety of aviation. This act is also a strong violation of international norms and laws. The Zionist enemy would not have dared to carry out such a terrorist act without U.S. aid and support, which is based on their strategic alliance.

While we strongly denounce this act of piracy, we reiterate the PDRY'S total support for and solidarity with sister Syria. Once again we affirm to you our country's solidarity with and total support for sister Syria and its people against all types of imperialist and Zionist aggressions and terrorism.

Minister Receives Soviet Economic Adviser

GF051848 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Monitored on 1188 khz with good reception, on 11770 khz with fair reception, and on 7190 khz with unmonitorable reception]

[Text] Brother Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of installations, received in his office today Comrade (Kadagov), economic adviser at the Soviet Embassy in Aden.

During the meeting, they discussed means of economic cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union. The brother minister described the dimensions of the futile coupist conspiracy carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique. He also described the means to rebuild and reconstruct what was damaged by wicked hands.

The meeting was attended by brother Mahmud Tarmum, assistant deputy minister of energy and minerals.

Officials Meet Ministry Employees, Others

GF051827 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 5 Feb 86

[From the "News and Reports" program; monitored on 11770 khz with fair reception]

[Excerpts] In light of the quick steps and measures that were taken by the political leadership in our country, represented by the YSP Political Bureau, to face the effects of the bloody and futile coup attempt arranged by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique, diligent efforts are continuing to eliminate those effects which left their clear and barbarous impressions on the capital, Aden, which has begun to be restored to normal life due to the rallying of the leadership of the party and state, the popular organizations, and the citizens.

Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, inspected the Installations Ministry building and looked into the ministry programs designed to overcome the effects of the futile coup attempt carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique. Brother Salim Salih Muhammad affirmed the importance of implementing those programs in order to reconstruct and repair the damaged installations.

Rajih Salih Naji, YSP Central Committee member and deputy secretary of the Central Committee, met with the members of the general secretariat of the Yemeni Women's General Federation Committee in the Governorate of 'Aqrah [as heard] and with the union cadres. He briefed them on the dimensions of the bloody coupist conspiracy carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his bloody clique on the morning of 13 January, pointing out the vast sacrifices that were made by our party and people to confront the conspiracy. He also called upon the leadership of the Yemeni Women's General Federation to resume their daily activities and to coordinate with the leadership committees in the governorate in order to adopt the measures necessary to deal with the circumstances resulting from the recent situation faced by the party and the people.

Brother Nasir Muhammad 'Amir, deputy minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, met with the employees of the general establishment of vegetable and fruit marketing. During the meeting, he briefed them on the course of the current activities at the depots for preserving bananas and depots for vegetables and fruits which were subjected to barbarous shelling and where technicians are currently working to rebuild what was damaged by the futile separatist clique, led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Immediate arrangements to receive and market vegetables in order to secure the citizens' stable food supply were also discussed.

Rallies Held Denouncing 'Ali Nasir Conspiracy

Hawtah City March

GF052025 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Monitored on 1188 khz with good reception, 11770 khz with fair reception, with unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] Hawtah City in Lahij Governorate today witnessed a big popular march, speech, and rally which denounced the abortive coupist and fascist conspiracy planned and executed by the conspirer and defrauder 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his murderous clientele on 13 January. The march began from Dar al-Sha'b near the YSP executive bureau secretariat. Various sectors of Hawtah residents participated in the march. At the speech rally, brother Dr Ahmad 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Ilah, member of the YSP Central Committee and first secretary of the party committee in the governorate, made a speech in which he hailed the big, popular gathering and the solid spirit of struggle which foiled the bloody conspiracy and its plotters.

He hailed the people who powerfully and confidently confronted the blood shedder 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clientele to make the party and its collective leadership victorious. He expressed the masses' denunciation and condemnation of this conspiracy which was plotted by powers opposed to our revolutions. He pointed out that because its defense and security organs and our toiling masses rallied around it, our party proved that it is stronger than destructive weapons and conspiracies planned both inside and outside by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his supporters.

He explained that our party confronted the conspiracy and has destroyed its remnants. It has chased the blood shedder to his natural location near the historic enemies of the revolution. He urged the working masses to exert efforts to rebuild what has been destroyed by the conspirers, including the economic installations destroyed during the conspiracy events and what they destroyed before their ill-fated plot through differences, waste, and bribery. He urged them to defend our YSP revolutionaty achievements.

Two other speeches were delivered at the rally on behalf of the YSP organization committee in Tuban District and the popular organizations in the governorate. In these speeches they denounced the conspiracy and its plotters and emphasized their readiness to continually work to rebuild what has been destroyed through the conspiracy. A number of patriotic works of poetry were recited and a minute of silence was observed for the martyrs of the bloody 13 January events.

Supreme Court Hall Rally

GF060407 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Monitored on 1188 khz with good reception, on 11770 khz with fair reception and on 7190 khz with unmonitorable reception]

[Text] A mass rally was held at the hall of the Republic's Supreme Court today to denounce the futile coupist conspiracy carried out by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique designed to put an end to the revolutionary experience, the goals of the revolution, and the YSP.

During the rally — attended by a large crowd of laborers and employees of the Justice Ministry, judges of courts, and lawyers — Brother Ahmad 'Umar (Ba Matras), deputy chief of the Republic's Supreme Court, delivered a speech to explain the dimensions of the futile coupist conspiracy carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his conspiratorial clique. Speeches were also delivered during the rally on behalf of the party's basic organization at the Justice Ministry, and on behalf of the courts, the basic party organizations, the youth union organization at the Republic's Supreme Court, lawyers, and branch courts. All of them expressed their denunciation of the futile coup attempt by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique.

The speeches affirmed their total support for all of the necessary measures taken by the Political Bureau to confront the conspiracy. They also affirmed the importance of standing with decisiveness before any attempt to harm the national and progressive regime and before any acts of sabotage which harm our national economy.

Journalists Tour Abyan Districts, Meet Officials

GF051925 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Monitored on 1188 khz with good reception, on 11770 khz with fair reception, and on 7190 khz with unmonitorable reception]

[Text] A press delegation comprised of a number of correspondents of Arab and international newspapers and news agencies visited the districts of Mudiyah and Lawdar in the Governorate of Abyan.

During this visit, Dr Muhammad 'Awad al-Sa'di briefed the delegation on the stable and calm security situation and on the details of the 13 January bloody coupist events arranged by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique.

The delegation also met with the officials of the two districts and with a number of witnesses, who briefed them on the details of the ugly crimes, the collective massacres, and the acts of sabotage and terrorism carried out by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's criminal clique against the party, the people, and the security of the country.

The officials at the two directorates affirmed the masses' rallying around the party, the collective leadership, and the constitutional legitimacy and the masses' readiness to contribute to the reconstruction of what was destroyed by the coupist clique.

UAE Paper Reports 'Ali Nasir in Syria; Prior Visits

GF060837 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Feb (QNA) — The Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quotes official sources in Damascus as affirming that PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived in the Syrian capital last night on a brief 1-day visit, during which he will meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to discuss the developments of the situation in the PDRY.

The sources have revealed that Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made a quick visit to Algeria 2 days ago during which he met with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The sources said that the results of their meeting were "very positive".

The paper adds: "The official who accompanied Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on his visit to Algeria, which was preceded by a visit to Libya, has stated that his meeting with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi lasted 4 hours. During the meeting, they reviewed in detail the conflicts within the ruling YSP in Aden since the period which preceded the convening of the YSP third congress in October 1985.

Fisheries Minister Returns From Arab Tour

GF051617 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Monitored with good reception on 1188 khz and unmonitorable reception on 7190 khz]

[Text] Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister of fisheries, and his accompanying delegation returned to Aden today after concluding a tour of Syria, Algeria, Libya, and Kuwait.

During the tour, the minister delivered written messages from Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid; Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; and Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The delegation accompanying the deputy prime minister includes Muhammad Haydarah Masdus, member of the YSP Central Committee and PDRY ambassador to Bulgaria; Qasim 'Abd al-Rabb Sahil, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and PDRY ambassador to Iran; Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, minister of trade and supply; Ahmad Muhammad Qa'tabi, minister of state for sports affairs; and Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister.

Upon his arrival, the minister was welcomed by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, Political Bureau member and foreign minister; Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of housing; and a number of party and state officials.

This morning Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man met with Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, during which he briefed him on the developments recently witnessed by our country during the bloody 13 January conspiracy led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique. The deputy prime minister affirmed our country's concern to continue to develop and bolster the bonds of fraternal cooperation with fraternal Kuwait.

On his part, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir affirmed that the events in the PDRY are regarded as domestic affairs which only concern the PDRY. The Kuwaiti official wished our country and people success in overcoming the traces of the painful events. He also affirmed his country's desire to continue to develop relations of fraternal cooperation with the PDRY.

QATAR

Minister Receives Note From Saudi Foreign Minister

GF051056 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0855 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Doha, 5 Feb (WAKH) — Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari minister of finance and oil, has received a verbal message from Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal dealing with bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern for the GCC countries.

The message was delivered by 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mansuri, Saudi deputy foreign minister for political affairs, during his meeting with the Qatari minister today.

The Saudi official later left Doha for his country at the conclusion of a tour which included Qatar, the UAE, Bahrain, and Oman.

Cabinet Denounces Israeli 'Hijacking'

GF051058 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, today chaired the weekly Cabinet session, held at Al-Dawhah Palace. The Cabinet issued a statement denouncing the crime of the hijacking of the civilian Libyan plane yesterday by Israeli military aircraft. Following is the text of the statement:

The Cabinet has followed with great concern the news of the hijacking by Israeli military aircraft of a civilian Libyan plane carrying a Syrian political delegation.

While denouncing this new Israeli aggression, which has added to Israel's terrorist record against the Arab world, and strongly condemning Israel's flagrant violation of international law and conventions, the Cabinet appeals to the international community, represented by the UN Security Council, which is meeting to discuss this very serious matter, to adopt measures capable of putting an end to the repeated and hideous Israeli crimes and to deter Israel from perpetrating further acts of aggression.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Analyzes Soviet Role in PDRY Developments

PM050941 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 27 Jan 86 p 8

[A study by the 'UKAZ Information Center: "Aden on Top of a Volcano"]

[Excerpt] The international dimension of the conflict:

The conflict in South Yemen is directly linked to international strategies in two ways. The first and more general is Aden's strategic importance by virtue of its position on the Indian Ocean and Bab el-Mandeb. The second and more significant is the South Yemeni regime's close ties with the Soviet Union. The regime openly declares its faith in Marxist socialism and has since October 1979 been linked to the Soviet Union by a "friendship and cooperation" treaty.

Actually, Moscow has not been distant from the recent developments in South Yemen. The coup leader 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il only returned from the Soviet Union a few months ago. Abu Bakr al-'Attas, who has been appointed acting chairman, had just returned from Moscow to take control amid great difficulties.

That, perhaps, is what prompted many analysts to conclude that the Soviet Union was behind the recent developments. That conclusion, however, cannot be totally accepted. True, everything that has happened and is happening has done sounder Moscow's umbrella in the sense that all the conflicting parties are loyal to

Moscow. There is, as yet, no side fighting to break away from the communist system and the Soviet Union but there is no doubt that the Soviet Union is one of the losing parties in these developments. Aden is under direct Soviet influence and any disturbances in it cannot be in the Soviet Union's interest, except to the degree of its tight control over the course of events. A study of the developments does not produce conclusive proof of that, although recent official Soviet statements have provided sufficient indications and warnings to others not to interfere.

The more likely explanation of the Soviet attitude toward the recent developments is that the bloody struggle for power was inevitable and the Soviets could not have prevented it regardless of whether or not they wanted to. When the struggle did occur, the initial Soviet position was one of "wait and see," without clearly siding with either side. Once one side began to get the upper hand, the Soviets expressed reserved support for the rebels who are more pro-Soviet and more hard-line.

With regard to the other superpower, the United States, it seems to have accepted that what is happening in Yemen is an internal affair which should not be interfered with. That, of course, suits the Soviets who are assured, to a certain extent, that any result will ultimately go their way.

The expected results of the Aden events:

Regardless of the details of the Aden reports on the control of one side or another, the course of events there points to a number of expected results.

1. The current situation is unlikely to lead to direct Soviet intervention similar to that in Afghanistan, for example, as some people predicted. The local, regional, and international circumstances are completely different. The Soviets might not even be in need of such an intervention since nobody has broken ties with the Soviets. So, Aden is in no way similar to Afghanistan.

2. It is difficult for Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's wing to regain control of the country, regain full power, or destroy his opponents in the short or medium run, particularly in the absence of firm foreign support and with the Soviets abandoning him.

3. It is also not easy for the opponents who have assumed power to settle the matter conclusively and end all acts of violence before some time elapses.

4. South Yemen is, therefore, a likely scene for violence which could go on for some time. The violence might not reach the point of an all-out civil war, but it will continue. And as it continues, the attempts of the defeated wing (or its supporters) to regain power will also continue and be repeated over and over again. This view is supported by the tribal dimension of the crisis and the different origins of all the warring parties in a society which still believes in vendettas.

5. Viewed on the basis of historical factors and background, the expected regional conduct of the hard-line wing is not reassuring, but it is not realistic to rely on the past in determining such conduct at home or abroad. South Yemen and its new regime are faced with a new situation that is completely different from the past as the following points will show.

6. Most of the traditional leaders of the hard-line wing have been killed which means that we are faced with new figures whose conduct cannot be based on the conduct of the former leaders of this wing.

7. The post-January Yemen will be quite different from the pre-January Yemen. South Yemen will emerge extremely weak and exhausted. Initial estimates of the past 10 days' losses are thousands killed, tens of thousands wounded, 80 percent of the capital destroyed, and material losses exceeding $4 billion in a country whose total annual exports are $30 million against imports of $900 million.

8. Soviet interests in the region are at a transitional stage. The Soviet Union has begun changing some of its policies in the region and it has, since Gorbachev assumed power, been clearly trying to improve its relations with the region's states. Of course, this factor will be taken into consideration when south Yemen's foreign policy is drawn up, particularly its policy toward its neighbors, especially north Yemen. This is what the Soviets will assure President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's envoy who is currently in Moscow.

All these points will come into play regardless of which new leadership finally gains control in South Yemen. The domestic and foreign policies of such a leadership will be determined in light of these factors and not simply in light of the ideologies it believes in.

UAE

FRG President Makes Stopover in Abu Dhabi

GF041905 Manama WAKH in English 1625 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, Feb 4 (WAKH) — West German President Richard Von Weizsaecker arrived here today for a brief stop-over on his way to the Far East for a two-week tour.

He was received on arrival at the airport by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, Ahmad Khalifah al-Suwaydi, the presidents representative, Shaykh Sultan ibn Zayid, Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry and a number of senior officials.

Meets With President Al Nuhayyan

GF042045 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2025 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Feb (WAKH) — A meeting was held in Abu Dhabi tonight between His Highness UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and FRG President Richard Von Weizsaecker.

During the meeting they reviewed the situation in the Middle East and the Gulf region, European-Arab relations, the international economic situation, and international issues of mutual concern as well as the means to develop the existing cooperation between the two countries.

Departs Following 1-Day Visit

GF050717 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0640 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 5 Feb (WAM) — His Excellency FRG President Richard Von Weizsaecker left the UAE today following a 1-day visit to the country.

YAR

Iraqi Deputy Minister Conveys Message to President

GF051245 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, today received in his office at the presidential palace brother Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. During the audience the latter conveyed to the brother president, the secretary general of the General People's Congress, a message from his brother Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi republic, pertaining to relations between the two fraternal countries, new developments in the Arab and the international arenas, and issues of common interest.

The audience was attended by brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the standing committee; brother Nuri Isma'il al-Ra'is, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary; and His Excellency 'Abd Husayn Al-Rafa'i, the ambassador of the Iraqi republic to our country.

Makes Statement, Departs

GF051851 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Sanaa today after concluding a 2-day visit to our country. During the visit he conveyed a message to brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from his brother His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi Republic, pertaining to relations between the two fraternal countries and means to bolster them, in addition to the new developments in the Arab and international arenas.

In a statement to SABA', Brother Tariq 'Aziz said that he carries a reply message from the brother leader of the General People's Congress Secretary General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his brother President Saddam Husayn.

He said that his meeting with the brother president and his talks with brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the standing committee, consolidated the brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries in addition to the level of understanding and consultation toward a number of issues of common interest.

Upon his departure, he was seen off by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani; Brother 'Abd Husayn al-Rafa'i, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the standing committee; the Iraqi ambassador in Sanaa; and a representative from the presidential protocol.

Mubarak Interviewed on Mideast Situation, Terrorism

DW050901 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German
3 Feb 86 pp 127-131

[Interview with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak by reporters Volkhard Windfuhr and Wolf Dieter Steinbauer at the president's residence in Cairo — no date given]

[Text] *SPIEGEL*: Mr President, only a short while ago peace in the Middle East appeared to be near. Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO agreed in principle to hold negotiations with the Israelis. Now, everything is open again: Jordan's King Husayn, your confidant, surprised you by approaching Syria, Egypt's opponent, and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is discredited once again because of the latest terrorist attacks. Hasn't your peace policy actually failed?

Mubarak: No, we cannot say that Egypt's peace policy has failed. As before it remains our main concern and the basis for solving all problems.

SPIEGEL: However, you have not advanced much.

Mubarak: Some time ago a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was reached. There was talk of an international peace conference and of a mixed delegation formed by Jordan and the PLO. The United States showed understanding and flexibility. I was in America last September when the U.S. secretary of state said before the Security Council that he had no objection to such a conference.

SPIEGEL: Such a conference certainly will not occur in the near future. Why do you cling to that conference?

Mubarak: An international conference offers a framework that conveys a feeling of security to the parties concerned. The only problems that still exist between Israel and the United States, as well as the PLO, are connected with the structure and modalities of such a conference. We are of the view that all sides must show flexibility so that the conference takes place at long last.

As to Jordan and Syria I do not even rule out the assumption that their mutual rapprochement advances the peace process so that all of us will participate jointly in the international peace conference and solve the problem as a whole.

SPIEGEL: Aren't you being too optimistic?

Mubarak: I am aware that it will be awhile before it happens. However, let us tackle the problem realistically. I also hope that the United States and Israel will show sufficient flexibility. I think that Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres understands that quite well. He is one of those who have shown the highest degree of flexibility.

SPIEGEL: At any rate, is he so flexible that he will meet you at any time you might desire? Are you ready for an Egyptian-Israeli summit dialogue?

Mubarak: That is no problem for me. However, I have made a pledge to my people, which I must adhere to. Such a meeting requires a compromise solution on Tabah, flexibility regarding the Palestine issue, and Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. The Israelis have withdrawn almost completely from there and as to the Palestine issue I can see the beginning of a flexible approach. May God help us advance further. Regarding the border dispute on Taba, we still need compromise.

SPIEGEL: Is it worthwhile to let a dispute about Tabah smolder — an area of boulders extending over barely 1 square km in the Gulf of Aqaba, on which claim is laid by your country as well as Israel?

Mubarak: Our soil is holy to us. We insist on possession of our territory just as any other state does. Why does Israel make such a problem out of 800-meter-long Tabah? After all, the Israelis signed the map on which the peace treaty was based. It shows that Tabah is unequivocally located on Egyptian territory. What is this all about? Minister Sharon declares, no, we will not give up Tabah. Such language is bound to inflame. However, that does not mean that we will wage war because of Tabah. Negotiations continue.

SPIEGEL: At any rate, relations between Israel and Egypt have deteriorated almost dramatically. How long is the relationship supposed to remain cooled down?

Mubarak: Relations certainly have not cooled down too much. After all, we keep in touch with one another. Only recently Israeli Minister 'Ezer Weizman was here. Delegations are coming and going. Israeli tourists vist our country. We, too, do not prevent anybody from traveling to Israel. Israel buys our crude oil.

SPIEGEL: Is the word of your predecessor Anwar al-Sadat still valid that the war of 1973, when the Egyptians crossed the Suez Canal, was the last big Arab-Israeli war?

Mubarak: Why, for heavens sake, shouldn't it be valid any longer? Wars never solve problems. They can be settled only by way of negotiations. That is how it was in the Vietnam war. And we ourselves, how actually have we regained our territories that we lost in the war? Just take the war between Iraq and Iran. Can it be expected to bring about a solution? A war only results in bloodshed and destruction.

SPIEGEL: A solution to the Palestinian problem, which is burdening Egypt's relationship with Israel, actually is not in sight. Do you think that time is working against the Palestinians?

Mubarak: People, of course, get accustomed to a fait accompli, if 2, 3, 5, or 10 years have elapsed without any headway having been made. They get sick and tired of the problem. However, the more hopeless their situation becomes, the more easily the Palestinian expellees can be misused for terrorist attacks in Europe and elsewhere.

SPIEGEL: Will there be even more terrorist acts soon for this reason?

Mubarak: In the name of God, to begin with, we ought to realize the cause of terror — it is the Palestine problem. Let us solve that problem so that terror can be reduced to a minimum. In this we cannot ignore the overwhelming majority of the Palestinians, who live outside the PLO and dispose of lots of money, and instead stick to the minority. That would be a big mistake. The wealthy majority can be blackmailed for terrorist attacks at various places.

SPIEGEL: The indecision of the PLO led by Yasir 'Arafat expressly to recognize Israel's right to exist, has caused you to appeal to the PLO leader that he agree to a coordinated approach with King Husayn. Does 'Arafat still listen to your appeals?

Mubarak: What matters is not appeals and adherence to them, but a method of reason and thorough consideration. We do not send up trial balloons just to let them burst in the air afterwards. We say to the chief of the PLO: "An agreement to hold an international conference on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 was almost been reached. Now you, the Palestinians, together with King Husayn, should seek to find a formula that allows you to accept the two resolutions and, in so doing, to reserve yourselves your rights; because without those two resolutions, an international peace conference on the Middle East cannot be achieved."

SPIEGEL: As a matter of fact, Israel will always insist on recognition of its right to exist.

Mubarak: Exactly. That is why I told 'Arafat, "Brother Yasir, look for a formula recognizing the two UN resolutions, with which you agree."

SPIEGEL: Is 'Arafat actually in a position to do that?

Mubarak: I cannot say whether he is able to do it or not. We are in constant touch with him and King Husayn.

SPIEGEL: What remains of Yasir 'Arafat's political significance now after his mortal enemies in Syria have come to an arrangement with Jordan?

Mubarak: From afar it looks as though the thrust were directed against Yasir 'Arafat. However, I do not believe that King Husayn wanted to undermine 'Arafat's position when he sought understanding with his Syrian neighbor. Besides, 'Arafat is right now visiting King Husayn so as to discuss with him the way in which the Palestinians are to be represented during the peace negotiations with Israel and at an international conference. No, I really do not believe that His Majesty King Husayn wants to disavow the PLO through his relations with Syria. King Husayn knows quite well what matters.

What is happening between Syria and Yasir 'Arafat is a matter concerning the two sides alone. The question as to whether or not 'Arafat is overthrown is not our business. It is reserved exclusively to the Palestinian people. We are not allowed to interfere in the internal affairs of the PLO.

SPIEGEL: Don't you regard the new Syrian-Jordanian agreement as a challenge?

Mubarak: Not at all. Syria is an Arab country with which we have differences. Damascus rejects our peace treaty with Israel — the Camp David agreements. Yet, that is Syria's own business. King Husayn's relations with Damascus constitute no challenge at all to us; understanding between us is very good. That, by the way, is the nature of the Arab world. It is nothing new — one quarrels with one another, then somebody becomes reconciled with somebody else, and another one quarrels with a third one.

SPIEGEL: Would Egypt be in a position to make a contribution to Arab unity if it were to return to the lap of the Arab family of states?

Mubarak: We? No, the return to the Arab world does not occupy me very much. I maintain good bilateral relations with the majority of Arab states. It is no problem for me at all. As to a return to the Arab League, I do not think about it at all.

SPIEGEL: For the time being, political positions are changing in the Middle East. The Soviet Union is gaining ground, above all in the Gulf states. Egypt, too, has abandoned Al-Sadat's anti-Soviet policy and made efforts to improve relations with Moscow. What do you expect to come of it?

Mubarak: For a long time the USSR was a friend. There existed close cooperation between our countries in the era of President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir and also early during the presidency of Anwar al-Sadat. The Soviet Union is one of the superpowers. It cannot be in our interest to spoil relations with a superpower.

However, I also say it equally frankly that we maintain special relations with the United States. We are cooperating with it economically, militarily, and in other fields. However, that must not prevent us from maintaining good relations with the Soviet Union or other powers.

SPIEGEL: You were not altogether successful in convincing U.S. President Ronald Reagan of your ideas about peace in the Middle East. Could Egypt's renewed relations with the Soviet Union lend additional weight to your peace initiative?

Mubarak: We have always maintained relations with the Soviet Union. There has always been a Soviet embassy in Cairo and an Egyptian embassy in Moscow. We had only withdrawn the ambassadors. The improvement of our relations with the Soviet Union and the expansion of our foreign policy spectrum does not constitute any reaction to American policy. Our relations with the United States are firm and close notwithstanding the difficulties that have emerged in the past. However, differences of opinion must be allowed to crop up once in a while, even among friends and brothers.

SPIEGEL: After the kidnapping of the Italian liner, the *AchilleLauro* and the interception of the Egyptian airliner by U.S. fighter planes more than mere differences of opinion have come up...

Mubarak: ...things happen but also pass again. Our cooperation with the United States works as it should, and that is to say in all fields. Of course, problems emerge once in a while, which we also discuss.

SPIEGEL: Currently confrontation between Libya, Egypt's neighbor, and the United States is mounting. If an armed conflict were to arise, wouldn't Egypt then be confronted with the disagreeable choice of either supporting the Americans or the Arab states backing Libya?

Mubarak: I simply do not believe that the big United States will attack such a small country as Libya, which has only 1 and 1/2 million inhabitants. That is unimaginable, it is unthinkable. Notwithstanding all the talking, the United States will not attack Libya, I believe.

SPIEGEL: Thus, the threats from Washington are nothing but mere bluster?

Mubarak: It is not for me to say. The United States is a superpower with its own independent decisions. However, I do not believe an attack will happen, although I am not in a position to know that. I actually do not know American state secrets.

SPIEGEL: It was learned after the *Achille Lauro* affair that you were ready to meet with Libyan leader Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi. Does such readiness still exist today?

Mubarak: I have not called for a meeting with him. I had been asked whether I would be opposed if Al-Qadhdhafi desired to meet me. I certainly would not reject such a request. May he tell us what he wants to say. Ahlan wa-sahlan! (welcome). Al-Qadhdhafi then stated: "Who has told you that I want to meet you?"

SPIEGEL: You and many other politicians are charging Al-Qadhdhafi with standing behind a large number of terrorist actions, including those directed against Egypt. Do you believe that he was also behind the assaults in Malta, Rome, and Athens?

Mubarak: As far as I know, some of the apprehended perpetrators admitted that they had been in touch with Libya and Syria. However, I do not want to preview the current investigation. However, I must say that Al-Qadhdhafi has been connected with terrorist activities for quite some time.

Al-Qadhdhafi, for instance, has sent people to Egypt to assassinate representatives of the Libyan opposition. We apprehended them. Another time he sent a car with explosives. The perpetrators were also seized. And after we had stated that Abu Nidal was sitting in the Tripoli Grand Hotel, the press in Europe wrote that there was nobody by that name at the hotel. Later on the newspapers abroad reported that Abu Nidal had actually stayed at the Grand Hotel. At first, however, they denied the correctness of our assertions. If information is made public by us, we know exactly what we are saying.

SPIEGEL: Abu Nidal announced that he would liquidate all Arab politicians who seek peace with Israel. Do you feel threatened?

Mubarak: If we allowed ourselves to be paralyzed by such fears then we might as well stay at home, we need not work any longer. There is nothing new about assassination threats against politicians and they are not unique to this part of the world. Often enough someone has threatened to kill a president here or a king there.

SPIEGEL: PLO leader Abu al-'Abbas helped you in the negotiations with the *Achille Lauro* hijackers. He is accused by the United States and now also by Italy of having instigated the kidnapping action himself. Why did you allow him at the time to go?

Mubarak: It was on the day of the kidnapping that I heard the name Abu al-'Abbas for the first time. He was just coming from Iraq, I believe, he was on his way to Tunis, and he stayed here for one night. When the kidnapping was underway, we did not allow him to depart because we told ourselves that he might be able to help us solve the problem.

SPIEGEL: You did not know anything more about him?

Mubarak: We did not know anything about connections with the action. We caused him to have the kidnappers release the hostages and we then allowed the ship, which also had Germans and Italians aboard, to sail. Together with the kidnappers Abu al-'Abbas then flew in the direction of Tunis, however, the aircraft was forced to land in Italy. At the time no charges existed against him in Italy and Abu al-'Abbas then vanished to Yugoslavia. Had there existed any charges against him and a warrant of arrest been issued at the time, then they would have arrested him at that time.

SPIEGEL: By such actions do the terrorists aim at discrediting you and your policy?

Mubarak: How can people direct themselves against us when they commit attacks in Rome and Vienna? What was directed against us was the kidnapping of our civil aircraft. Maybe it was to be an answer to Yasir 'Arafat's Cairo statement, to his challenge to terrorism, and also a reaction to the fact that we had received him. To be sure, it is acts of sabotage by circles that do not want the peace process to continue.

SPIEGEL: It is not just in Libya, but elsewhere in the Arab world that there exist opponents to a peaceful settlement with Israel. They even exist here.

Mubarak: In Egypt?

SPIEGEL: In Egypt as well, for instance, those who made a national hero out of the border soldier who shot seven Israeli tourists in the Sinai.

Mubarak: There very few extremists, whom you will find among all peoples in the world. They are a minority that uses every opportunity to express itself. We who live in a democratic state do not prevent anybody from expressing his views. Like the Germans or the Americans, 50 million Egyptians cannot be expected to give their blessing unanimously to everything. Even if the overwhelming majority of a people is of the same view regarding a certain matter, then there naturally must also exist people who are opposed to it and also those who play their own little games, invent stories, and come up with novels. Untenable defamations fall under the responsibilities of the courts. But how do things actually work in Israel? Foreign Minister Shamir does not even agree with the Camp David peace. People exist over here and over there who are opposed to Camp David. However, what is decisive is the majority.

SPIEGEL: Not since the 1952 revolution has the Egyptian opposition had so much freedom as now to articulate itself in speaking and writing. Will it remain like that?

Mubarak: We made our decision once and for all in favor of democracy and freedom for the people. Developments will continue in that direction. That is the more difficult, but the healthier road. There actually does not exist any reason for me to deprive somebody of his freedom, even if it were only the right to freely express his view.

SPIEGEL: But there are certainly limits to opposition?

Mubarak: The limit is defined by the Constitution and the law. If the opposition, for instance, slanders anybody without any reason at all, it must justify its action. In such cases even perpetrators in America are brought to trial and sometimes they have to reckon with penalties running into the millions or with detention.

SPIEGEL: There exists a multitude of parties in Egypt. Will you also allow the nationalist and anti-Western Nasirists, as well as the advocates of an Islamic state to organize themselves into their own parties?

Mubarak: Our party law explicitly prohibits setting up religious parties. If we were to open the floodgates in that respect, then we soon would have an Islamic party, and a Christian party would follow — no, that does not lead to anything. He who abides by the law is welcome. Everybody is entitled to join this or that party. In Germany you, for instance, have a communist party. Does it actually bring any strong influence to bear? A democracy enables every citizen to express his view as long as he agrees with the democratic system.

SPIEGEL: Will the wave of militant Islamization in the Arab world rise?

Mubarak: Egypt is an Islamic country in which 99 percent of the laws are in conformity with the commandments of the religion of revelation. Islamic extremism results from a wrong understanding of Islam. If all Islamic countries were to explain to their citizens what must be understood by genuine Islam and true Islamic principles then extremism would be insignificant.

SPIEGEL: Egypt no longer is the dominating Arab power it used to be. Are you striving to regain Egypt's leading role so as to bring order out of the chaos of the Arab world?

Mubarak: If you think that Egypt is not the leading Arab power then that is your personal view. Egypt is the predominant power in the region, whether others like it or not.

SPIEGEL: Because Egypt is the strongest and most populated Arab country?

Mubarak: Because it is the biggest country in this part of the world, because it is the seat of the Al-Azhar University, the Islamic stronghold of science; because 12 universities than can accomodate more students than the universities of all other Arab states are open to some 50 million Egyptians; because Egypt disposes of by far more qualified personnel than the rest of Arab world; because Egyptian professors are teaching at all Arab universities; because our engineers are working everywhere in the Arab world; because our physicians even working in Europe and America, and because our country has been in a position to lay the foundations of democracy. Nobody can deprive Egypt of its leading role.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, we thank you for the talk.

'Abd Al-Majid, Papers Comment on Israeli 'Hijacking'

'Abd al-Majid

NC041843 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1822 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA) — Responding to a question by MENA on the interception of a civilian Libyan plane by Israeli aircraft, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, affirmed that Egypt does not approve of the interception of civilian planes.

AL-AHRAM on Libya, Interception

NC060819 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 6 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "We Do Not Want To Attack Anyone," *AL-AHRAM* carries statements by President Mubarak in which he welcomed Libya's cessation of its anti-Egyptian media campaigns. Mubarak answered a journalist's question by saying: I thank them. I hope we will find a better way of dealing with each other and that we will be able to work out our differences without resorting to terrorism. The paper adds this comment: Truly, Egypt does not enjoy attacking anyone, particularly any of the brotherly and neighboring Arab countries. We are eager to pay homage both to the ties of kinship and to the traditions of good-neighborliness. The paper closes by noting that when Israel hijacked the Libyan aircraft, Egypt was in the forefront of those countries that condemned this act. Egypt is a consistent opponent of terrorism and hijacking.

AL-AKHBAR on 'State Terrorism'

NC060753 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 6 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Today's edition of *AL-AKHBAR* states: Israel has committed yet another act of state terrorism, and has reaffirmed its low regard for all international laws and conventions once more. The Israelis hijacked a Libyan passenger plane and forced it to land at a military base in northern Israel. The paper asks: How can one justify the endangering of innocent human lives on the mere suspicion that terrorists might be aboard a civilian aircraft?

The paper concludes by wondering: What will the U.S. Administration, an avowed foe of terrorism, have to say about this act? Will Washington use its veto to block a condemnation of Israel in the UN Security Council? What will the international community say? Don't we need a firm stand against such repeated actions by Israel?

Commentary Criticizes Israel

NC051642 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Hilmi al-Buluk commentary: "The Erroneous Israeli Logic in Justifying the Crime of Hijacking the Libyan Civil Airliner"]

[Text] The hijacking of a civilian airliner by individuals or terrorist organizations is by all standards and by all international laws and charters considered a serious crime that threatens international security and safety. All countries have agreed on the need to stop and confront these crimes and to impose the maximum punishment on their perpetrators. Considering these factors, hijacking a civil airliner jeopardizes international security and safety more if it is carried out by a government or a state that is a member of the United Nations and is supposed to be committed to the laws and principles of the UN Charter.

The reason for this is that UN member states that are not committed to the Charter but which violate it and threaten international security and safety — which are among the basic aims of the United Nations — greatly weaken the commitment of the UN mission and encourage terrorists to persist in their crimes. We can see, then, how the world could turn into a jungle dominated by killing, terrorism, and shedding of blood, and where the principles of justice, religion, and security would finally disappear.

The air piracy by Israeli fighter planes yesterday against the Libyan civil airliner, en route from Tripoli to Damascus, which they forced to land in an Israeli base, constitutes one of the most serious international crimes. The world must be aware of its extreme importance and should not be lax in confronting it. It will become a precedent that Israel and other countries can follow if not faced decisively and firmly. The reasons given by Israel for committing this crime should never be an acceptable justification for keeping silent. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that the decision to implement the hijacking was taken because of suspicion that terrorists were aboard the plane. Does this mean that Rabin and other Israeli Government officials agree that all countries that have suffered and are suffering from Israeli acts of terrorism in Lebanon, the Golan, Iraq, the occupied territories, Tunisia, or other countries, should carry out similar operations against Israeli civilian airliners if there is suspicion that they carry one of those responsible for these crimes?

This Israeli logic is unacceptable because Israel wants to permit itself that which is not allowed to others. Such logic will upset balances and will shake the roots of international security. The former head of Israeli military intelligence, member of the Knesset, described the hijacking of the Libyan plane as organized terrorism that makes Israel's calls for stopping terrorism seem ridiculous.

We are telling Israel that terrorism must be rejected regardless of its courses or its motives. If those who have been dispersed all over the world, had their lands seized, and their rights ignored by Israel must disavow terrorism, it is even more unacceptable for Israel because it has committed all these actions. Those who raise their voices to declare their rejection of terrorism and to denounce the crime of the hijacking should be the first ones to desist from practicing these crimes. Otherwise these people will subject themselves and the world to more sufferings and crimes.

Discussions on Tabah Issue Underway in Al-Jizah

First Official Session

NC051735 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The first official expanded session of the new round of Egyptian-Israeli talks on the Tabah problem began at Mena House hotel in Al-Jizah at 1630 this afternoon. The United States is participating in this round of discussions.

All members of the three delegations took part in the expanded session. Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry, is heading the Egyptian delegation. The Israeli team is led by Avraham Tamir, director of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office; George Sherman, counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, heads the U.S. delegation.

In a statement after the session, Mahmud 'Uthman, the official spokesman for the Egyptian delegation, said that during the first session of the expanded talks between Egypt, Israel, and the United States agreement had been reached in principle to divide the delegations into two working groups. He explained that the first group will concentrate entirely on the arbitrable compromise and all other legal aspects of the Tabah issue. The second group will consider the remaining issues. He added that the morning and afternoon talks had been held in a cordial atmosphere, and that a spirit of understanding has prevailed so far. We hope that this spirit will continue throughout the talks.

In response to a question, the Egyptian spokesman said that each delegation had expressed the hope that the matter would be concluded satisfactorily. He added that the talks are proceeding in a good atmosphere.

Asked whether there is any disagreement on organizational procedures, the spokesman said: I have indicated that there is no disagreement as far as the organization of our work is concerned.

Regarding the 14 conditions that Israel had included in its decision on arbitration, the spokesman said that these points represent Israel's interpretation. Egypt has stated that these conditions are not binding. He went on to say: Egypt is now listening to the views being put forward at the negotiating table. However, he added, we have our own stand and our own observations on these views, although some of the points could be described as positive.

Answering another question, the Egyptian spokesman said that the Egyptian delegation to the talks had clearly pointed out that discussions must focus on the arbitral compromis and the legal aspects related to it. It has also indicated that these matters must be settled as soon as possible.

Dr Nabil al-'Arabi is scheduled to submit a report tonight to Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the outcome of today's session. The talks are expected to last for 2 days, and it is thought that 'Abd al-Majid will receive the participating delegations tomorrow, Thursday.

Working Team Makes Progress

NC051937 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1903 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA) — The Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. working group, formed by the tripartite discussion team, met this evening to discuss all points of the arbitrable compromise. It has been learned that the three parties agreed to adopt the principle of arbitral compromise. They made great progress in this session, particularly on the legal principles pertaining to all aspects of arbitration. Discussion of this topic will resume tomorrow morning.

Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi, head of the Egyptian delegation and director of the Foreign Ministry Legal Department, submitted a report on today's session to Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Second Day of Talks

NC060919 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, head of the Egyptian delegation to the Tabah talks, this morning. They examined Egypt's views on Tabah and the outcome of yesterday's discussions in which Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. delegations took part.

The Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. talks on Tabah resumed this morning. Mahmud 'Uthman, a spokesman for the Egyptian delegation, said that in today's round, the three delegations would consider the arrangements for international arbitration and the laws governing the compromise.

Joint Military Liaison Office Meeting Held

NC051459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA) — A meeting of the Egyptian-Israeli military liaison office, established in accordance with the peace treaty, was held this afternoon. Rear Admiral Muhsin Hamdi and Lieutenant General Faruq Labib led the Egyptian side. The Israelis were headed by General Dov Si'on. It should be noted that this body meets periodically to discuss bilateral issues within their jurisdiction as stipulated by the peace treaty.

Coast Guard Boat, Israeli Yacht Collide Near Elat

NC051901 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1840 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, we have just received the following: An Israeli yacht has collided with an Egyptian Coast Guard boat, *Al-Timsah*. The incident took place within Egypt's territorial waters when the Egyptian vessel was on patrol south of the port of Elat. The Israeli yacht had turned around after being warned by the Egyptian boat to leave its territorial waters.

News agencies have reported that an Egyptian patrol boat had collided with an Israeli yacht, causing damage to the yacht but no casualties. An Israeli spokeswoman, who asked not to be identified, stated that the passengers aboard the yacht said that the Egyptian boat chased the yacht and was circling around it at high speed when the collision took place.

Israeli Smuggler's Case Referred to Mufti

NC051424 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA) — At a hearing today presided over by Judge 'Adil Sidqi, the Cairo Criminal Court decided to refer the case of defendant Yosef Amin Tehan, an Israeli citizen, to the mufti. The court fixed 6 March as the date for an announcement of the verdict. The defendant is accused of smuggling drugs into the country.

'Abd al-Majid Briefed on Jordanian-Palestinian Talks

NC051444 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Sa'id Kamal, assistant chief of the PLO's Political Bureau. In a statement to our radio correspondent following the meeting, Kamal said that Yasir 'Arafat had asked him to convey a message to 'Abd al-Majid on the outcome of the intensive talks between King Husayn and 'Arafat. These talks focused on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and on a just settlement for the Palestinian issue, taking into account the right of the Palestinians to decide their own destiny. He added that the PLO wanted to brief President Mubarak and other Egyptian leaders on the outcome of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks because of Egypt's support for the agreement and the joint moves to attain the nationalist rights of the Palestinian people at this particular stage. Dr 'Abd al-Majid voiced Egypt's support for the Jordanian-Palestinian efforts.

Report on AL-QABAS Interview With Saddam Husayn

JN051553 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 5 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has affirmed that what is happening in Iraq is neither an Iraqi miracle nor a new phenomenon in Iraq, but an Arab phenomenon discovered in Iraq. He said: I am confident that this phenomenon is inherent in every Kuwaiti, Algerian, Moroccan, Egyptian, Yemeni, Saudi, Libyan, and Syrian citizen, as well as in any other Arab individual, adding: We cannot ignore their special traits, but generally speaking, the new Arab phenomenon which was discovered in Iraq is present in the personality of all of them.

In a dialogue with the editor in chief of the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* published today, President Saddam said: This phenomenon has appeared in Iraq as a result of war challenges and by adopting new and organized methods to deal with events, developments, science, and technology within the framework of an economic buildup, a social and cultural life, and the military front, as well as of all affairs of life and areas of building.

Asked whether Iraq is embarking on an economic open-door policy and whether it will give Arab investors a chance to invest their money in Iraq, President Saddam Husayn said: We do not believe that the presence of only the private sector will be sufficient for living conditions and we also do not believe that socialist activity alone will lead to a successful life. We believe that life needs both private and socialist activities. He added: Many laws have been enacted in order to allow Arab investments in Iraq. Any Arab citizen may invest his capital in accordance with extensive regulations guaranteed by laws [word indistinct].

President Saddam thanked Kuwait and the Kuwaitis in particular and said: What concerns us is that we want the Kuwaitis and the Saudis in a good situation in both countries and added: We particularly appreciate our brothers in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. As for our other brothers, our interest in them is measured by their stands toward us. We do not speak ill of any Arab, even those who did not carry out the minimum of their duties.

As we told the Iraqi people a week ago, it is enough for us if any Arab mentions us in his prayers in silence, if he does not want anybody, except God, to hear him. This is enough for us if that Arab cannot extend tangible assistance. He also explained: Our interest in and appreciation of others are measured by their stands toward us. Our brothers in the Gulf have adopted a good position in general and Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have particularly adopted very good positions. He extended his greetings to all citizens in Kuwait, from princes to shepherds.

President Saddam Husayn also stressed that Kuwaiti officials believe in the need to stand by Iraq and that they realize more than others that the danger is mutual. He also expressed his satisfaction with his visit to Moscow and said: We expressed our satisfaction with the outcome of that visit in news reports published about the meetings of the Regional Command and the RCC. The Soviets also talked about our visit when their Politburo held a meeting.

He said: We express satisfaction with this visit not only because of our armaments, but because we consider political understanding to be the basis of relations between two or more states. We consider the development for relations [words indistinct]. Our discussions in Moscow centered on political issues, pertaining in general to the region and even to some international issues of mutual concern. We were in agreement on the issues we discussed and we sensed that the Iraqi and Soviet sides are ready to continue meetings and discussions.

He added: We are very satisfied with the visit and the Soviets are also satisfied. He pointed out that the Soviet Union is a superpower and that it can influence any issue in one form or another.

On Iraqi-Syrian relations, President Saddam Husayn said: Obviously, our policy is to establish good relations with all our Arab brothers without exception whenever circumstances and suitable opportunities to establish such relations become available. This principle also applies to Syria. Should the opportunity and the suitable circumstances for establishing neighborly relations become available — relations devoid of plotting and maneuvers and which each of us will respect — we will be ready to establish such relations.

The president said that the past was very bitter, but we should not only dwell on the past. What is more important is to transform the past into a bright reality. We should not be bogged down by the past. The president added: This is our line. When Syria becomes ready to take one step, we will take a step; and when they become ready to establish normal relations with us similar to our relations with many of our brothers, we will be ready. This principle applies both during the war and after the war has stopped.

The president said: This is a firm principle of our relations. We do not say things which we do not apply. Whenever we say something, we mean to apply it. It is not for maneuvering or propaganda purposes. However, we must say that circumstances of war allow the Iraqis to rise above many of their wounds; but when the war ends many of our wounds will remain open, unhealed. The president said that when the war ends and the Iraqis begin to recall Syrian behavior, then the process of restoring relations will not be as easy as though they had been restored during the war. This is the only exception.

On the stand toward Libya, the president said that it is obvious that Iraq is at war and that Libyan weapons and missiles hit Baghdad. He said: We held several meetings with them based on Arab initiatives. We told them: You are in the Arab west and we are in the Arab east. Your stance on the war is unfathomable and inexplicable and you must reconsider your position and be committed to the collective Arab Defense Pact and the Arab League Charter, which you are currently invoking in your appeals to Arabs to come to your assistance against the so-called U.S. aggression against you. You must rectify your stands toward the [Iraqi-Iranian] war in a tangible manner.

The president added: Accordingly, we are prepared to bypass the bad experiences of the past and establish new relations which will benefit the Arab nation and remedy the negative Arab situation. The president said: Our position is that the Libyans should be prepared to correct their stand by deed and not only by word. We do not want them to change their stand the next day. Nobody can deceive Iraq. Nobody can beat around the bush or lie and imagine that we are unable to expose his lies. The president said: Nevertheless, if the Libyans intend to reconsider their position, we will be ready.

On the situation on the Syrian-Israeli front and on reports about the possible outbreak of hostilities or a limited or unlimited war, the president said that these reports are baseless and unrealistic. He added: I do not agree with those who say that a limited or unlimited war is possible because Syria wants to have war with Israel. He said: It is possible that skirmishes may occur to attract attention within the well-known Western endeavors to play up the so-called peaceful solutions in the region without Syrian or USSR participation. As for war, I do not think it will occur at present. As for Iraq's position if such a war takes place, the president asserted: Our answer is clear. Iraq was never complacent in defending Arab land. History will never record such a thing for Iraq.

On current efforts to solve the Middle East dispute, the president said: Hints by Western states at (?insufficient) solutions are aimed at preventing Soviet influence in the Middle East and not at solving the Palestinian question. He described efforts by certain Arab states in this regard as a means to activate the question and said that these states are creating this clamor. [as heard] The president added: We do not see any deep-rooted solutions in the foreseeable future. The solution requires a situation where the Arabs could force Israel and its allies to tackle the problem from its roots.

Tariq 'Aziz returns From Talks in YAR

JN051737 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad at noon today following a brief visit to the YAR. During the visit the minister held talks with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, dealing with the situation in the region and issues of common interest.

Oil Minister Returns From OPEC Meeting, Comments

JN061129 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1057 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Feb (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi returned to Baghdad today after heading the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the ministerial committee set up to defend OPEC's production quota which recently convened in Vienna. The oil minister told INA that the committee discussed methods for implementing the resolution which the OPEC ministerial conference adopted in Geneva last December on the need to secure a fair OPEC quota on the market that would be in line with the financial and developmental requirements of member states. The minister said that the committee decided that the OPEC quota is higher than the production ceiling which OPEC previously set for itself and that this ceiling is vital and is basically linked to market circumstances and price changes to secure an acceptable level of oil revenues.

Al-'Urabyi said that the committee studied the fairness of this OPEC quota as well as the means that are needed to attain and defend it. The minister also said that the committee recommended a meeting in mid-March of a consultative ministerial conference of OPEC members.

Communique No 2,106 on 4-5 Feb Combat Operations

JN051723 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,106 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Under their capable, wise, and courageous leadership, with absolute faith in their just cause, and with very high morale and great armies which are filling the land, our Armed Forces are throwing their nets in order to pounce on the enemies. If the Khomeyniites choose aggression, they will be choosing painful death and final defeat, God willing.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. A number of our forward formations in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah opened fire with artillery and other weapons on enemy positions and troop concentrations. Confirmed enemy losses were two enemy soldiers killed and one 81mm mortar, one vehicle, one observation post, and one infantry position destroyed.

2. One of our units ambushed an enemy patrol in the V Army Corps northern sector. In a courageous assault, our men captured an enemy soldier and forced the others to flee.

3. In the II Army Corps central sector, one of our units sighted an enemy patrol trying to advance toward our positions. Our unit opened fire with various weapons and forced the patrol to flee after it lost a number of casualties.

4. One medium machinegun position was destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 February 1986

King Husayn Receives Yasir 'Arafat 5 Feb

JN051531 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Amman, 5 Feb (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the royal court, the foreign minister, and the director of the General Intelligence Department.

Paper Says Arabs Must Confront Israeli 'Terrorism'

JN050945 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Feb 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The Madness of Israeli Terrorism"]

[Text] Once again, Israel has carried out a very insolent act of terrorism which is similar to other acts of terrorism carried out by irresponsible individuals and groups.

Perhaps this condemned Israeli action, which was carried out in international airspace, is the most serious Israeli act of terrorism because it comes at a time when a superpower is carrying out a fierce campaign from the sea against what the United States calls Arab terrorists. This Israeli action also comes at a time when this superpower has declared an economic war against an Arab state which is falsely accused of supporting terrorism.

A UN member state, fully supported by the United States, which has made very effort to be a spearhead against terrorism, has carried out an action that not only endangers the safety of civil aviation in the region's airspace, but will also escalate tension and justify all the condemned terrorist acts. Moreover, it will pave the way for a strong wave of terrorism as long as some states unhesitatingly carry out such actions.

Despite the fact that Israel, which has previously downed and hijacked civilian passenger planes, is considered the great fortress and master of international terrorism, what has encouraged Israel to carry out this action are similar U.S. acts of terrorism such as the hijacking a few months ago of an Egyptian civilian passenger plane in the same international airspace. We said then that this U.S. action against the Egyptian plane would encourage Israel to continue its terrorist madness. Facts have followed quickly to prove that the Zionist enemy has blatantly and very accurately followed the U.S. steps and example, especially since the U.S. hijacking of the Egyptian plane passed without the international punishment it deserved.

While faced with a blatant Israeli terrorist crime, Israeli violation of the basic norms of international law, and unprecedented Zionist insolence, we do not believe that a UN Security Council resolution can put an end to the escalating Zionist arrogance. We also do not believe that the world states' condemnation of this heinous crime can alleviate the pain and anger of every Arab due to the great humiliation Israel has caused us to suffer. Unless this nation awakens from its long sleep and decides, along with the Arab masses, to confront this continued Israeli madness, we will see more hideous acts against us on land, sea, and in the air, and we will continue forever and uselessly to mull over our grief and pain.

Calls for Sanctions

JN061019 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Feb 86 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "Sanctions Are the Only Real Deterrent"]

[Text] The terrorist Israeli action against the Libyan airliner has received the widest possible international denunciation that very clearly shows gravity of the crime Israel committed against civil aviation and against the most basic laws and norms which organize international action.

The real panic expressed in various statements of denunciation which were issued by the great majority of world countries expresses the anxiety caused by the hijacking incident, which constitutes a frank call for the use of violence and force against aviation and for running the war at the expense of civilians regardless of which side they belong. However, contrary to all international denunciation of this hijacking incident, the United States once again stood in confrontation of this escalating international unanimity against official terrorism. Through its senior spokesmen, the United States announced that the hijacking operation is a justifiable act against terrorism and on this basis, will use the veto if the UN Security Council decides to vote on the draft resolution demanding the denunciation of the organized Israeli terrorism.

It is certain that the United States, which a few months ago committed a similar act of piracy against an Egyptian civilian plane, will not find the political courage to denounce such an incident even if it originally had the desire to go against Israel's will and to make its stand distinguishable, even a little bit, from the savage Israeli stand. Hence, while seeing the United States wielding the veto in advance and expressing its readiness to cover this abominable Israeli crime against the entire international community, we call on the Islamic Conference Organization states as well as the nonaligned states to hold an urgent meeting to decide on the appropriate sanctions against Israel as long as the international community's will is obstructed by the U.S. veto.

These Third World countries may be able to implement measures to prevent Israeli planes from passing through their countries' airspace and close Israeli airline offices until the sword of the veto that only strikes in Israel's interest is lifted and until the international will regains some of its credibility and effectiveness which are obstructed as a result of the persisting U.S. bias to Israeli terrorism.

Believing that the Security Council's denunciation will not be enough to deter Israel from its terrorist acts on land, at sea, and in the air, we also believe that here is an opportunity to launch a wide campaign of practical denunciation of Israeli terrorism by calling on all friendly countries to implement defined sanctions against Israeli flights, especially since the enemy leaders, while admitting the failure of this hijacking operation, are still affirming their determination to continue such operations in the secure knowledge that they will not be punished nor will they suffer any international sanctions.

Al-Jumayyil Vows To Remain in Office

NC061143 Paris AFP in English 1136 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Beirut, Feb 6 (AFP) — Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, 44, today rejected calls for his resignation from Syria-allied opponents, breaking a three-week silence to insist he will serve out his six years to September 1988. He had faced political deadlock since refusing on January 14 to ratify a Syrian-brokered accord to end 10 years of civil strife, signed in Damascus in December by Lebanon's main Shia Moslem, Druze and Christian militia.

The accord would have given Moslems a bigger role in Lebanon's power set-up, now dominated by the Christians who traditionally provide the president. Mr al-Jumayyil told journalists today he intended to "do his duty" by remaining head of state. He was elected by the Lebanese Parliament in September 1982 after his president-elect brother Bashir was killed in a bomb blast. "It is not a question of personal ambition, I am here to do my duty," he said. "It isn't a piece of cake, it carries risks and I am ready to take them."

Al-Jumayyil, Others Condemn Israeli 'Piracy'

Al-Jumayyil Calls Al-Asad

NC052013 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad tonight. He told him that Lebanon — president, government, and people — condemned Israel's act of piracy against the airliner on which Ba'th Party Assistant Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar and members of the Syrian delegation were returning from Libya yesterday.

President al-Jumayyil told President al-Asad that Lebanon places its resources at the United Nations at Syria's disposal to confront this act. President al-Asad thanked President al-Jumayyil for his initiative. President al-Jumayyil had earlier sent the following cable President al-Asad:

To His Excellency Lieutenant General Hafiz al-Asad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, Damascus: The aggression that Israel committed against the airliner that was transporting the Ba'th Party's assistant secretary general and members of the accompanying delegation is denounced by Lebanon — president, government, and people.

While congratulating members of the Syrian delegation on emerging unharmed from this treachery, I assure you that Lebanon stands by the side of its sister Syria in confronting such acts, which constitute a flagrant violation of international norms and charters. To emphasize this fact, Lebanon places its resources at the disposal of its sister Syria, by word and deed, in Arab and international forums, it will confront these aggressive acts.

Your brother, Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the Lebanese Republic.

Calls Al-Qadhdhafi

NC052236 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2215 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at 2230 today and denounced the hijacking of the Libyan plane, which carried the Syrian delegation back from Libya.

Karami Denounces 'Hijacking'

NC051404 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has condemned yesterday's hijacking of a Libyan airliner by Israel. He demanded that the Arabs unite in order to deter a state that violates human rights, international law, and global charters.

In a statement to REUTER, Karami declared: Israeli activity is marked by terrorism and piracy. It is tragi-comic to hear Israel filling the world with its noise against terrorism while forgetting that its own ugly actions depend on the protection it receives from certain states outside the region. It believes it can use this protection to lay down the law of the jungle in place of international laws and charters.

Prime Minister Karami added: Israel is trying to annex some 30 square km of land along our southern border near the Al-Litani River in order to steal and divert its water for its own benefit. He continued by stating: The hijacking of civil airliners, the violation of internationally recognized laws, and what happened yesterday to a Libyan plane carrying a high-level Syrian delegation are the result of U.S. measures against the fraternal state of Libya, which has sovereignty over its land and waters, particularly the Gulf of Sidra. Karami asked: How can all this be explained, and how can the international community remain silent and make no move to put a final stop to such acts, which, if continued, would greatly endanger international peace and security?

Prime Minister Karami urged the Arabs to show a high degree of solidarity, saying: Now as never before, the Arabs must prove their ability to meet these challenges. Solidarity is their foremost duty if they are to deter this state, which violates human rights, as well as international laws and charters.

Al-Huss Cited on 'Piracy'

NC051235 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Dr Salim al-Huss, minister of labor and education, has called on all Arabs to recognize the dangers inherent in Israeli terrorism. While commenting on the hijacking of the Libyan airliner, Dr al-Huss said that air piracy is something we expect from Israel. Israel is a state that was founded, and has expanded and subsisted on the basis of terrorism. Dr al-Huss added: We in Lebanon are victims of Israeli terrorism, as the Palestinians were before us. Unless the Arabs realize the gravity of the danger to their future posed by the aggressive state that has been planted in their land, they will fall victim to Israeli terrorism.

Islamic Grouping on Tripartite Agreement, 'Hijacking'

NC051507 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The Islamic Grouping held its weekly meeting today under the chairmanship of His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Republic. In a statement issued after the meeting, the grouping announced that the tripartite agreement offers an opportunity for peace that must not be lost. It demanded that political negotiations should continue in a democratic manner. It reiterated its insistence that Syria should sponsor these negotiations to achieve a Lebanese accord through political and constitutional dialogue.

The Islamic Grouping blamed the political and military tension and the subsequent repeated waves of violence for the deterioration in the economic situation. It called on political and party leaders to face up to their responsibilities in the present delicate and critical stage, and appealed to them to exert their utmost efforts to end the war and close the dossier of violence before it is too late.

In its statement, the grouping referred to Israel's annexation of parts of Lebanese territory in the South and its seizure of springs and other sources of water in the border area. The grouping declared that these actions are incompatible with the most basic international principles and norms and constitute a blatant violation of international charters. It urged all Arab brothers to adopt a serious and responsible stand to confront the Israeli challenge.

In its statement, the grouping said Israel's hijacking of the Libyan airliner could paralyze mercantile and civil transportation. It called on international and regional organizations to adopt an appropriate deterrent policy, and wondered what attitude the United States would take toward these terrorist actions by the Israeli terrorist state.

Islamic Group Downs UNIFIL Helicopter, Holds Crew

Contact Lost Near Al-Jiyah

NC051529 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Contact was lost with a UNIFIL helicopter as it was on its way from Beirut to Al-Naqurah this afternoon. The helicopter was flying west of Al-Jiyah township when contact was lost. Exchanges are taking place between the Internal Security Forces and Amal Movement security men in Tyre to find out the reasons for the loss of the UN helicopter.

Islamic Group Holds Crew

NC051726 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1700 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Contact was lost with a UNIFIL helicopter as it flew over Al-Jiyah this afternoon. Efforts are now underway to find out why this happened. We have just been informed that the UNIFIL helicopter was forced to land in Karkha, where members of the Islamic Group abducted the 5-man crew.

Negotiations Underway

NC051952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1906 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] According to a security source, the UNIFIL helicopter landed in Shawaliq township, east of Sidon, this afternoon. The source said that the fate of its passengers is yet unknown and that the security organs are trying to learn where the aircraft is. A UNIFIL statement indicates that contact was lost with the helicopter, which was on a Beirut-Al-Naqurah flight this afternoon, when it was west of Al-Jiyah township.

A military spokesman for the Popular Liberation Army in Sidon said tonight that the helicopter had crashed east of Sidon today. The spokesman added that the Liberation Army had transported the French crew — the pilot and his assistant — to Sidon and that engineer Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd would hand them over to the UNIFIL command.

Our correspondent in the south reports that a UNIFIL delegation arrived at the Muhammad Zughayb barracks in Sidon a short while ago. The delegation is holding talks for the return of the pilot, his assistant, and the four passengers. Colonel 'Adnan al-Khatib, commander of the southern military zone, said that efforts are underway to end this situation and return the helicopter's crew and passengers to the UNIFIL delegation. It has been learned that the passengers are expected to be set free tonight.

Arqadan Negotiates for Release

NC052040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2020 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] According to the latest reports received by the Voice of Lebanon from the south, Shaykh Salah al-Din Arqadan [the Islamic Group's political officer in the south] arrived at the Muhammad Zughayb barracks in Sidon a short while ago. He began immediate negotiations with the UNIFIL for the release of the crew of the helicopter held by Arqadan's gunmen. UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel told the Voice of Lebanon that the crew is safe and sound.

Helicopter Passengers Released

NC060714 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0558 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] A UNIFIL helicopter was partially damaged yesterday, but its six passengers escaped unharmed. The helicopter was hit by gunfire from members of the Islamic Group over the (Sufrayya) area, which is east of Sidon. The helicopter was forced to make a crash landing and the Islamic Group took all those aboard to Sidon. The passengers were handed over to the UNIFIL command at midnight last night.

The helicopter was on a routine flight between Beirut Airport and UNIFIL Headquarters in Al-Naqurah. At 1500 yesterday, while the helicopter was over Sidon, a strong storm forced it to go off course toward the east. A spokesman for the Islamic Group announced: After the violent fighting along the combat lines on the Kafr Falus-Lib'a-'Ayn al-Mir-Shawaliq front, we were monitoring helicopter flights from areas controlled by agent Lahd. This prompted our ground defense forces to engage this unidentified helicopter and shoot it down.

Crew Released in Sidon

NC060630 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The members of the UNIFIL helicopter crew were released in Sidon last night. This followed negotiations at the Muhammad Zughayb barracks involving a UNIFIL delegation of French, Italian, and Norwegian observers. The helicopter was damaged while making an emergency landing in an east Sidon town yesterday afternoon.

Amal, Palestinian Front Agree on Camps Security

NC060827 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Representatives of the Amal Movement and the Palestinian Salvation Front held an expanded meeting yesterday. They agreed on ways of providing security to the camps and the surrounding areas. The removal of barricades and the process of limiting shows of force will begin today. Both sides emphasized their total commitment to this accord in order to confront the local, regional, and international conspiracy, which seeks to trigger acts of sedition.

Amal Cites Military Build-Up in Palestinian Camps

NC052034 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Reports from West Beirut this evening indicate that the Palestinians are using megaphones to warn the inhabitants of the camps to take refuge in the shelters. They have not, however, indicated the reasons for this. Informed sources in the Amal Movement expressed their concern today at the intensive military preparations being made by 'Arafat supporters in the Palestinian camps in West Beirut and the southern suburb. These sources have indirectly accused Junblatt followers of assisting the Palestinians by allowing them to transfer enormous amounts of arms and ammunition into the camps, via the mountain area and Khaldah harbor. The sources claim that this has helped put the Palestinians into a reasonably strong military position.

Gunfire in West Beirut, Mountain Area

NC052131 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Army positions in the old markets in the center of the capital are being subjected to heavy sniper fire. Earlier on, two rockets fell on residential areas in [word indistinct]. The Sodeco-Al-Barjawi line is also coming under fire.

In the mountain area, Junblatt's men are directing machinegun fire at Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and 'Ayn al-Sayyidah. In the upper Al-Matn, a number of shells fell on Tallat (Tans).

Fighting Reported in Areas East of Sidon

NC051248 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The security situation along the combat lines east of Sidon suffered a setback today. Various types of machineguns and rockets are being used in fighting along the 'Ayn Lib'a, Kafr Falus, and Anan combat lines. A number of shells struck nearby villages east of Sidon.

Resistance Reports Attacks on Lahd Positions

NC051641 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front has issued a statement indicating that a Resistance Front group attacked a Lahd militia position near the town of Sfaray in the province of Jazzin today, using rockets and machineguns. The attack was followed by an extensive combing operation by the militias. The Resistance men have also attacked another militia-manned position in Tallat Sujud, inflicting casualties.

Foreign Ministry Actions After Plane Incident

JN051319 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has sent urgent messages to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada, and Indian Foreign Minister Bali Ram Bhagat in India's capacity as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, informing them of the details of the air piracy carried out by Israeli war planes against a Libyan civil airliner in international airspace over the Mediterranean. Al-Shar' drew attention to the seriousness of this terrorist act which violates all the international norms and law. He asked them to inform all the organizations' member-states of the details of this act and to denounce it and take deterrent measures against the Zionist entity to isolate it and force it to end these terrorist acts and air piracy in the region.

The Foreign Ministry today summoned the ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions in Damascus to acquaint them with this barbaric action, and with the measures Syria has adopted to confront this serious action. The Foreign Ministry gave each a copy of the foreign minister's message which he sent yesterday to the UN secretary general and the UN Security Council president. The Syrian Foreign Ministry asked the ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions to inform their governments of this, to denounce this Israeli act of piracy, and to take necessary measures to put an end to Zionist terrorism.

AL-BA'TH Scores U.S.-Backed Israeli 'Piracy'

JN050837 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Zionist Piracy and the Danger Posed to World Security," *AL-BA'TH* commentary says: The Zionist air piracy has placed the entire world before the need to undertake serious action rather than mere denunciation. It has also endangered regional peace in the Middle East and brought it face to face with a total collapse of world security. Israel has emulated the United States in its terrorism and air piracy by fabircating pretexts to carry out its threats to place the entire Middle East in the circle of real danger and by finding pretexts for the U.S. war fleets to double their preparations and provocations in the Mediterranean.

The paper adds: We in Arab Syria, while not surprised by Zionist terrorism, remind Israel's protectors that terrorism exists as long as aggression against the Arabs continues because the Zionists alone are the terrorists and because their protectors brought them to assume this role with all the meanings of terrorism and piracy involved. When Israel exposes international airspace to danger and when it does not hesitate to find excuses for its terrorism, the question posed to the whole world is: Who is the terrorist then? The paper continues: If this Zionist behavior is justified by the U.S. Administration, which uses its international weapon — the veto — to protect every Israeli aggression, does this mean that the world will continue to be the captive of the U.S. veto and Zionist terrorism? It is time for the international community to implement the UN Charter against the Zionist entity. Otherwise, the peace which the international organization was founded to guarantee, will also be a captive of Zionist terrorism. Syria will then not be the only one facing danger, but the world with all the components of its civilization will not be spared from this danger. In as much as Zionist piracy mocks international law, it is — with its new and old methods — a resounding cry in the ear of every Arab so that he will hear, see, perceive his future, and know that guaranteeing his existence totally clashes with the rancorous Zionist racism and that the future of the Arab nation is determined by the will of challenge and not by the diplomacy of captitulation in the name of peace.

AL-BA'TH says: By calling for a real world stand toward the aggressor and his aggression, Syria aims at warning of the consequences entailed by silence and mere denunciation without deterring the aggressor through punishment according to international law. In the same manner as it warns the world against indifference to Zionist terrorism, it warns all the Arabs against any indifference to their legitimate right to defend their existence with the force for which there is no alternative in safeguarding Arab security. By means of its U.S. arm, Israel is trying to delude the Arabs into believing that they are not safe from its terrorism. It thus tells every Arab that the U.S. arm in the Israeli hand would not have stretched out to reach Tunis, Baghdad, Beirut, and international airspace had it not been for this Arab indifference toward the Untied States and had there not been among the Arabs a regime like the Camp David regime in Egypt, which placed all the Egyptian territory at the disposal of the U.S. arms in the Israeli hand.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: It must [illegible] stressed that Syria, which rejected all forms of pressure and extortion, will not be intimidated by U.S. arms and will not allow the Zionist terrorism to be a U.S.-Israeli method threatening the Arabs and their peace.

Radio Reports UNSC Session on Plane Incident

JN051711 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The UN Security Council held a session last night upon Syria's request to discuss the new Israeli piracy operation against a civilian Libyan plane carrying an official Syrian delegation — an operation which is considered an dangerous violation of the freedom of civil aviation in international airspace. Diya'allah al-Fattal, Syria's UN permanent envoy, affirmed that Israel's air piracy operations, its practicing of terrorism, and its threatening of civilian aviation in international airspace expose security and peace in the region to danger.

For his part, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar affirmed that the interception of the Libyan plane which was carrying an official Syrian delegation is a grave violation against civilian aviation and will exacerbate the deterioration of the tense situation in the region. Perez de Cuellar expressed his utmost concern over this graveaction.

For its part, the U.S. State Department justified the Israeli piracy action which used combating terrorism as a pretext for intercepting civilian planes. The enemy radio cited U.S. officials as saying that Washington will veto any draft resolution condemning Israel that the UN Security Council may adopt.

The enemy UN envoy defended the piracy operation by saying that Israel's only mistake was in its intelligence information.

Foreign Officials Condemn Israeli 'Air Piracy'

JN060738 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party Assistant secretary general, received phone calls yesterday from brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the command of the 1 September Revolution in Libya; brother Salim Salih, YSP Political Bureau member; brother 'Umar al-Hamidi, Libyan General People's Congress secretary general; and brother Faruq Abu 'Isa, President of the Arab Lawyers Federation in which they expressed their denunciation and condemnation of the terrorist act of air piracy that Israel committed against a Libyan civilian aircraft which was carrying a Ba'th Party delegation under comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general.

uf blank,l They also expressed their complete solidarity with Syria in its firm stand toward Israel's terrorism and aggression.

Comrade al-Ahmar received in his office yesterday delegations from the Syrian Communist Party, the Arab Socialist Union, the leaders of popular organizations, and Ba'th Party branches who voiced their anger over the Zionist piratcial act and reiterated their support for comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba8th Party secretary general and president of the republic, and for the Ba'th Party command in the confrontation of Zionist piracy and terrorism.

They stressed that such acts will only make the Ba'th Party and the Arab people more determined to pursue the struggle to regain the occupied Arab territories and usurped Arab rights and to repulse the aggression.

Paper Says Israeli Act Will Not Go 'Unpunished'

JN060811 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 6 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Piracy and the Reply" *TISHRIN* says: When Syria emphasizes that the terorist act of air piracy Israel has carried out against a civilian Arab aircraft in international airspace over the Mediterranean will not go unpunished this means that Syria will respond to this act in the appropriate manner and at the proper time.

At the same time, this means that the Syrian reply will be harsh and adequate in order to deter the Zionist terrorism.

TISHRIN explains that Syria's reply will come through many channels and with various means, and Syria in fact has initiated this by asking the international community and its organizations to assume their responsibilities toward this piratical incident which constitutes a blatant violation of international laws, a threat to the safety of civilian air navigation and international airspace, and endangers security in the region and world peace.

TISHRIN adds: The United States has been one of the most active forces to encourage Zionist terrorism which is Israel's basic characteristic and the slogan by which it abides. What Israel carried out the day before yesterday is not something strange or suprising. This act has only highlighted Israel's aggressive character which no one ignores, and shows that Israel acts in accordance with the mentality of highwaymen.

TISHRIN explains: The equation of playing with fire that the United States and Israel have adopted will inevitably have dire results on them sooner or later. Syria, backed by all the Arabs and all the peace-loving forces in the world will not stand idly by toward these provocations.

TISHRIN concludes: Syria has performed its preliminary duty toward this piratical act and informed the international community about the gravity of the situation. Syria will adopt the appropriate measures on this level proceeding from its inherent capability and the status it enjoys in the pan-Arab and international arena. This is its right. If enemy leaders believe that they terrorist piratical acts will pass unpunished, they are making a mistake.

Reportage on Talks in Egypt on Tabah Negotiations

Talks Begin; Committees Established

TA051405 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] At noon, the talks between the delegations of directors general of the two countries began in Cairo on the political package deal and the formulation of the arbitral compromise on Tabah. In this context, the Israeli Embassy spokesman in Cairo, Yitzhaq Bar-Moshe, reported that in today's round of talks it was decided to establish two committees. One will discuss the formulation of the arbitral compromise and the other will discuss improving relations between the two countries.

Egyptians Reject Proposals

TA052030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Egypt has rejected an Israeli proposal that it normalize relations with Jerusalem before arbitration begins on Tabah. Nabil al-'Arabi, head of the Egyptian delegation on Tabah, says Egypt disagrees with the Israeli linkage of arbitration with improved relations in trade and tourism. The linkage was the key portion of the Israeli Cabinet decision last month to submit Tabah to arbitration. Al-'Arabi also said, in an interview with an Egyptian weekly [*AL-MUSAWWAR*], that Cairo rejects an Israeli proposal that both countries employ conciliation to resolve the Tabah dispute until the arbitration process is scheduled to begin. In the 90-minute meeting today, Israel and Egypt decided to set up two negotiating committees. One would discuss Tabah arbitration and the other normalization.

Peres: Position Not 'Ultimatum'

TA060930 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
6 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by the Knesset affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Peres said yesterday that Egypt has agreed that the process of normalization in relations between the two countries take place parallel with the negotiations over the disputed Tabah zone.

However, he told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, the 14-paragraph decision of the Inner Cabinet concerning Tabah "is not an ultimatum and the constituent paragraphs stand independently of each other without internal linkage.

Weizman Interviewed on Tabah Talks, Peace Process

TA052045 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1935 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Interview with Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman by Nisim Mish'al, moderator; military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky; and political correspondent Yoram Ronen — live]

[Excerpts] [Shlonsky] A dialogue was begun in Cairo today between the directors general delegations of Israel and Egypt. Do you believe that on the basis of the mandate which the Israeli delegation received from the Inner Cabinet it will be possible to improve or normalize relations with Egypt?

[Weizman] Look, the situation which has developed between us and Egypt, 7 years after the peace treaty was signed — next month will mark the 7th anniversary of this — is one in which unfortunately the level of expectations of peace with Egypt has decreased, and it is not for me to analyze the reasons for that here. I believe that both sides want to improve relations. It is my assessment that the Egyptian leadership wants to reach an arbitral compromise, a process of arbitration on Tabah, since it is important to them and also to us, I believe. Therefore, I do hope that what was begun in Egypt this morning will bear fruit. Let me remind all that a process of negotiations does not begin and end at the same session. The process is long; I do not think it will be simple or easy. However, I believe that, ultimately speaking, within the next 6 or 12 months we will witness positive conclusions.

[Mish'al] Mr Weizman, as an expert on Egyptian affairs, how do you then explain the declaration by Nabil al-'Arabi, the head of the Egyptian delegation to the talks, who said that the Egyptians in fact reject several important Inner Cabinet decisions such as having conciliation before arbitration and a link between normalization and arbitration?

[Weizman] Look, the Inner Cabinet did not decide on conciliation before arbitration. The Inner Cabinet decided to begin a process of arbitration between us and the Egyptians. During the process of arbitration, the arbiters will be asked to try to carry out procedures of conciliation for a period which will range between 6 and 8 months, the Inner Cabinet's decision was for 8 months. Therefore, this is not accurate.

[Mish'al] What is not accurate, is it what the Inner Cabinet decided?

[Weizman] No, no. It is what Al-'Arabi said that is inaccurate. What the Inner Cabinet decided is clear and written down.

[Ronen] I assume that Al-'Arabi did read the Inner Cabinet decision, did he not?

[Weizman] The Inner Cabinet's decision does not state that there should be a process of conciliation before the process of arbitration. Look at the Inner Cabinet's decision. It stipulates arbitration, no doubt, this is what was agreed upon. What the arbiters will be requested to do is to try within 8 , perhaps 7 months, a process of conciliation. This will not be one process opposed to the other. This will be parallel processes.

[Ronen] Will the Egyptians buy this?

[Weizman] I believe so. I have known Nabil al-'Arabi for no less that 8 years and know that he always starts with a high ceiling and justly so. He is, after all, conducting negotiations. Incidentally, the Egyptians are trying to achieve what is best for Egypt while we are trying to achieve what is best for us. A compromise, not a conciliation, is, ultimately speaking, a procedure of negotiations.

[Ronen] Mr Weizman, did you get the impression that President Mubarak can live with a significant improvement in the relations with Israel?

[Weizman] There is an interesting phenomenon here on which I want to touch, now that you have asked me. We are always experts on internal situations in other countries. I am aware thatthe press is full of reports on the weak condition of the Egyptian regime. Let me say the following: The Egyptian president does not currently live with the thought that in 7 or 8 months he will have to make a rotation with somebody. He feels very stable. In my estimation, and so I reported to the prime minister, his stature in Egypt is better than thought. There is no doubt that anything could happen in any country, but I hope nothing will happen there. I suggest that, before we analyze what is happening in other countries, we should make an assessment as to how we are viewed. People in countries around the world are watching to see what will happen in the State of Israel in October.

[Shlonsky] What is your assessment indeed about the position of the Egyptians, of Mubarak, on the rotation?

[Weizman] Look, they did not tell me that. During my tete-a-tete there, I was asked questions, and let me tell you exactly what I said, I am saying this today too: This is my opinion; I believe that the State of Israel has hold elections during 1986. I told President Mubarak that I believe we will be holding elections during 1986. Let me tell you: In my estimation, this government has exhausted the moves it can make in the political sphere. It is a fact that for the past 17 months, this I did not tell him but you, we have not reached an agreement with the Egyptians. In my estimation, the Alignment would have been prepared to go for arbitration with much fewer conditions than one finds in the 14 clauses which make up the Inner Cabinet's decision. This decision is a compromise between the Likud and the Alignment and not between Egypt and Israel. If we want to make progress, and I think we must since otherwise worse security situations will be the result [sentence as heard]. To repeat, I do not think this government can do more in the political sphere, and since this is the case, and we reach rather tense situations, I, if this were up to me, would recommend that we hold elections in June, July, or October this year.

[Mish'al] You have said the government has exhausted its ability to effect some breakthrough in the political sphere. If we take Husayn, for example, it seems impossible to reach any understanding with him. Would you have taken the initiative to effect a significant breakthrough in this case and approached direct talks with 'Arafat?

[Weizman] I was waiting for you to ask such a question. I believe that nothing will move in the Middle East political issue if the Palestinian issue is not promoted. This issue was referred to in the Camp David accords which we signed. There is a Palestinian problem. If 'Arafat or any other elected leader arises today and agrees to UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, recognizes the State of Israel, and decides to cease terror acts, I will talk with him.

[Ronen] Do you agree with or approve of the way of conducting negotiations with Jordan which was begun by Shim'on Peres during his European tour, through secret talks with Richard Murphy, for one? After all, this has not led anywhere.

[Weizman] I disagree with what you are saying. I think that the prime minsiter is justly making enormous efforts to maintain contacts with Jordan, which is much more difficult than with Egypt. For myself, it is easier to go to Cairo and meet President Mubarak than to exchange indirect messages with the Jordanian king. I think that the prime minister is acting well and hope he will continue this way. Whether through a nocturnal meeting with Murphy in London or otherwise, anyway and anytime is fine for trying to decrease hostilities and calm the situation in the Middle East and, naturally, also for achieving political solutions in our region.

Peres Briefs Knesset Committee on Talks With Murphy

TA051535 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres disclosed to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee this afternoon that in his talks with Richard Murphy in Europe he suggested that the preliminary negotiations currently underway on the option of the international conference and its composition turn into direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan. The prime minister said that his proposal was not accepted by King Husayn. According to Peres, Murphy believes it will be possible to convene the international forum as early as February, but Murphy's efforts in this direction have not been fruitful. This report was filed by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

Peres: Nation Will Retaliate for Terrorist Strikes

TA061012 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0953 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says Israel will strongly retaliate against any attempt to strike at it, including attempts made by terrorists in the air, at sea, or on land. Peres noted he does not advocate the policy of turning the other cheek. The prime minister again said we must not despair over the chances for peace, despite the efforts involved in conducting difficult negotiations between a complicated coalition in Israel and a not less complicated coalition in the Arab world. Optimism about peace must be expressed through action rather than guesswork. Shim'on Peres was addressing the Zionist Executive meeting in Jerusalem, and our correspondent Alon Ben-Dor reported these excerpts of his remarks.

On Retaliation, Peace

TA061139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said Israel will not hesitate to strike at terrorist targets by land, sea, or air. [as heard] Peres was speaking at a Zionist General Council in Jerusalem today. Steve Rodman reports:

Prime Minister Peres issued a warning this morning: To those who dare to strike us, Peres said, we will respond. The same goes for terrorists, Peres says, who have threatened attacks on Israel in the wake of the forced landing of a Libyan jet on Tuesday. In a speech to Zionist movement leaders, Peres says security must be Israel's priority, but Israel must use its strength, Peres said, to search for peace. Peres stressed that despite his government's efforts toward peace, he did not expect an immediate breakthrough.

[Begin Peres recording] I will not put any date. I mean whenever I deliver a speech, some of my good friends in the press are adding — so that it will not be totally boring — here and therea date, because it makes it more dramatic. I think we need peace soon or preferably this year. I mean I wouldn't suggest that our prayer for peace will be like our prayer for Jerusalem: Next year in Jerusalem. I would say: This year let us have peace. [end recording]

The prime minister said despite the slow going in the peace process, Israel is taking the initiative in improving conditions for Arabs living in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. It is an effort, Peres says, that will mark the government policy for a long time.

Further Reportage on Reaction to Plane Interception

Peres: Interception 'A Mistake'

TA051615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the decision to intercept the Libyan plane was the kind of decision which had to be made within several minutes. It is clear a mistake has been made, but he hopes that the United States will understand the motives involved, as has been the case in the past.

The prime minister also briefed the committee on his European trip. The meeting ended later, without discussion on the interception of the Libyan plane.

After the meeting, Knesset Member [MK] Ehud Olmert said that the prime minister, the defense minister, and the chief of staff deserve congratulations for their decision on the interception. In contrast, MK Yosi Sarid said that the decision had not been properly considered.

Wrong Plane Intercepted

TA061006 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Feb 86 pp 1, 5

[Report by Yosef Walter, Refa'el Mann, Shefi Gabay, and 'Oded Granot]

[Excerpt] On Tuesday at the conclusion of the conference convened by the Libyan leader, three executive planes took off from Tripoli. The pro-Syrian terrorist leaders who took part in the conference indeed boarded one of them, but not the one that was intercepted by Israel Air Force planes. This, apparently, is the reason for the intelligence error which caused the failure of the operation to capture the terrorist leaders.

The IDF and the defense establishment are now studying the various aspects of the operation and the lessons that can be learned from them. The main point under examination is the evaluation of the reliability of the information on which the decisionmakers based their decision to intercept the plane. An initial investigation has been conducted so far. The exhaustive investigation will last for several days.

Meanwhile, Israel has stepped up its security measures along air and naval routes and in Israeli institutions abroad, in order to preempt any possible Syrian, Palestinian, or Libyan retaliatory action following the interception of the executive plane.

El Al: 'No Room for Fear'

TA061330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The El Al spokesman thinks there is no room for fear of a retaliatory action for the interception of the Libyan plane. He told foreign correspondents that El Al's security precautions are excellent and the company does not plan to take additional precautions.

In reply to a question, the spokesman commented that El Al's air routes are safe and far away from the Libyan coast; the area is guarded by Air Force planes, providing security cover, and the Sixth Fleet, which is sailing in the area, is also a force that can be relied upon.

6 Feb Morning Press Reaction

TA060726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 6 Feb 86

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] *HA'ARETZ* says that even if several of the terrorist leaders had been caught in the intercepted plane, the operational capability of the terrorist organizations would not have been seriously affected, and substitutes would have been found for those caught. Or did anybody toy with the idea of trying them in the style of the Eichmann trial? Such an attempt could have proved counterproductive. In other words, an operational success could have embarrassed us and caused us difficulties in the long-term. Our war on terrorism does not obligate us to give immunity to the top echelon of the terrorist organizations, but the idea of capturing them alive appears problematic, and this not only against the background of our present failure. Is it possible that the operational challenge itself fascinated those who took the decision to intercept the Libyan plane, pushing to their subconsciousness any political consideration of what would happen 1 hour after the success?

HATZOFE writes that the war against Arab terrorism requires that we take unorthodox and unexpected steps, without the other side dictating the location, timing, or character of our actions. However, there is no magic formula that can ensure that every operation will achieve its goals. There were many operations of the IDF against the terrorist organizations in the past which led to a wave of denunciations and criticism in the world. The unsuccessful interception of the Libyan plane joins this list. All the countries which denounced Israel's last operation do nothing against Arab terrorism, and do not take action against those who encourage and support it. Israel's war against Arab terrorism will continue in all ways, whether in the air, sea, or on the ground.

THE JERUSALEM POST says that when we are speaking of terrorist bases or terrorist operatives there is logic in the defense minister's remarks that we will attack whenever we find military or non-military targets linked with terrorism on which an attack is justified. It does not automatically make sense for civilian planes in international air space or for actions that may have unacceptable consequences. In any war, including the war against terrorism, risks must still be weighed, prudence must still be exercised. And certainly a failure is no reason to embrace doctrinaire thought, or even its rhetoric.

6 Feb Midday Press Reaction

TA060937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* writes that we already experienced an unsuccessful interception attempt when Moshe Dayan was defense minister. Then we intercepted a Lebanese plane, but we did not find George Habash among the passengers. Israel does not learn from its mistakes, and this time, too, it will have to pay, even if the price is less expensive than in the past.

MA'ARIV calls for continuing the fight against terrorism and its leaders in all possible ways and with initiative and imagination. It recommends, however, that next time we make sure that success is 100 percent certain.

AL-MITHAQ Condemnation

TA051920 Jerusalem AL-MITHAQ in Arabic 5 Feb 86 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Official Piracy"]

[Text] The act of the hijacking of the civilian Libyan aircraft yesterday by Israeli war planes, and its forced landing at a military airfield near Haifa, is within the framework of the Israeli policy that scorns all international laws and moral principles customary to mankind.

It is noteworthy that several years ago Israeli war planes downed a civilian Libyan aircraft resulting in the death of all its passengers, including the elderly, women, and children. And a few months ago the leader of international terrorism — the United States — embarked on hijacking an Egyptian aircraft and forced it to land at a NATO military base, in the aftermath of the hijacking of the Italian ship.

The U.S. and Israeli justification has forever and always been: Fighting terrorism. What kind of terrorism are they talking about?

In this context we can say that the first and final losers from yesterday's operation will be those who perpetrated this abominable deed, which will achieve nothing for them except utter failure and disappointment at all levels, including for themselves personally and for their precise calculations.

The coming days will show everyone that disdain for national sovereignty has a limit despite the present period of official Arab weakness.

Egyptian Vessel Rams, Damages Israeli Yacht

TA051111 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by Shmu'el Tagar]

[Text] An Egyptian "Alligator" vessel rammed an Israeli yacht yesterday afternoon, causing it heavy damage. The *Jourdan*, the yacht involved in the incident, was approximately 1 km from the coast, near Coral Island, en route to Elat.

The yacht, which flew an Israeli flag, carried nine German tourists and three Israelis. Its Israeli captian, David Hilel, said that "the Egyptian 'Alligator' vessel came from the direction of the coast, without signaling to me with flags and without attempting to make any kind of contact, and started circling the yacht at great risk to our passengers. After several minutes of maneuvering, the Egyptian vessel rammed the *Jourdan* in its midpoint, wrecking the ramp and the railing and causing severe damage to the body of the yacht. After the vessel was rammed, the Egyptian captian withdrew without doing anything."

The crew of the yacht told the *DAVAR* correspondent that the Egyptians did not check whether the damaged vessel was leaking or whether any of the tourists were injured — they simply took off.

The captian informed the Navy of the incident, and proceeded to the Elat marina. The yacht's owners, Eytan Berger and Eliyahu Arye, reported the damage — which according to their assessment reaches $10,000 — to the Egyptian consul in Elat. The consul sent his aide to photograph the damaged yacht and asked the captain for a written report.

People in the Elat marina claim that the Egyptians are creating tension in the area in an attempt to foil the Tabah talks, because they are uncertain whether they will win the arbitration over the area.

IDF Investigating

TA060656 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent]

[Excerpt] The IDF's representatives on the joint military commission with Egypt yesterday began investigating Tuesday's incident in the Gulf of Elat, in which an Egyptian patrol boat reportedly rammed an Israeli yacht.

According to a military spokeswoman, the passengers (including nine Britons) and crew of the yacht reported that the Egyptian vessel had circled the yacht and then deliberately rammed into its side.

Radio Reports Israeli Sentenced to Death in Egypt

TA051635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] A Cairo court has sentenced Yosef Tehan from Israel to death by hanging, after convicting him of having smuggled a large quantity of heroin. The appeals by his Egyptian attorney for a lesser sentence, on the ground that he intended to smuggle the drug to Israel via Egypt, have been to no avail.

A Pakistani civilian was also sentenced for death together with Tehan, for having smuggled opium to Egypt. The two were bound together with chains.

The verdicts are now passing on to the Egyptian Supreme Mufti Council for scrutiny and approval. However, correspondents in Cairo say that this council decision is not definitely binding on the civilian court.

Foreign Ministry Involvement

TA051915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The Justice Ministry spokesman said he cannot handle the affair of Israeli Yosef Tehan who was sentenced to death in Cairo for smuggling heroin. He explained that this issue is currently being handled by the Foreign Ministry and is up to the mercy of the Egyptians.

MK Seeks Mubarak Pardon

TA052010 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Knesset Member Yosi Sarid [Citizens Rights Movement] sent a cable to the President of Egypt this evening. He asked that Tehan be pardoned, even if only for the sake of his relatives.

Minister Says OPEC Offers To Sell Oil To Israel

TA060931 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Feb 86 p 8

[Report by Knesset affairs correspondent Arye Rubinstein]

[Excerpt] For the first time, OPEC member states are offering to sell oil to Israel, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal revealed in the Knesset yesterday. He was replying to an urgent parliamentary question by Shevah Weiss (Alignment) on the effect of world oil prices on price in Israel.

Shahal said that the Ministry is examining the offers of various countries, including OPEC members and countries with which we do not have diplomatic relations.

MAPAM Submits No-Confidence Motion on Shipyard Crisis

TA051245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1234 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] MAPAM has submitted a no-confidence motion against the government against the background of the closure of the Israel shipyards. MAPAM says the Knesset unanimously decided that the shipyards are not to be closed, but this decision is not being implemented. The motion will be debated next week.

Three Inhabitants of Territories Deported 5 Feb

TA051202 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1139 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Three inhabitants of the territories were deported to Jordan several hours ago in accordance with the deportation orders issued to them by the security forces on 24 January. The three are Hasan Muhammad al-'Amudi, Jalil Hashim, and Muhammad Ibrahim Fanun.

The first two, who are from the Al-Burayj refugee camp near Gaza, were deported for hostile subversive activity in the PFLP, which they continued even after their release from life imprisonment in May 1985 in the framework of the prisoner exchange.

Muhammad Fanun, an inhabitant of Nahhalin, also acted on behalf of the PFLP, though in the underground, and was recently apprehended by the security forces.

ALGERIA

EL MOUDJAHID Details Bendjedid-Al-Qadhdhafi Talks

PM031451 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French
29 Jan 86 p 1

["Pledge To Building Greater Maghreb" — *EL MOUDJAHID* headline;attributed to APS]

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi met yesterday at I-n-Amenas for talks distinguished by fraternity and frankness equal to the many challenges facing the Arab nation in both the Maghreb and the Mashrek.

In this context, the strengthening of relations between Algeria and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has been seen by both countries' political leaderships as a prerequisite to taking up these challenges, thus contributing to consolidating Arab ranks and rallying Arab forces with a view to placing them at the service of satisfying the demands of their shared destiny.

Particular attention was devoted to the conditions for giving new momentum to relations between the two fraternal countries in line with the profound aspirations of the Algerian and Libyan people and, through them, with those of the Maghrebi people and all the Arab nation's people.

President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi reasserted their pledge to building the greater Maghreb as an integral part of building Arab unity, which remains the shared historic project of the 1 November and 1 September Revolutions. Within this context they deplored the persistence of the fratricidal conflict in the Western Sahara which is seriously hindering the attainment of Maghreb unity. They reasserted their belief that the satisfaction of the West Saharan people's right to self-determination and independence is an imperative for building the Maghreb, just as the building of the Maghreb itself provides the correct framework for resolving the West Saharan conflict.

They stressed that everything must be done to reach a peaceful solution to the conflict between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front in line with OAU Resolution 104, which was ratified by the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations. Analyzing developments in the Middle East, and especially the Palestinian cause, President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi highlighted the scale of Zionism's challenges and its aggressive and expansionist maneuvers to the Arab nation's detriment. They stressed that imperialist-Zionist collusion is the chief threat to the Arab nation, to its unitary future, and to the achievement of its task of civilization. They reasserted that the satisfaction of all the Palestinian people's national rights is the key to any lasting solution to the Middle East crisis, and that the necessary context for such a solution remains an international peace conference under UN auspices, in which the PLO would participate on an equal footing with the other sides as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

Last, they appealed to the Arab ranks to unite in order to provide the Palestinian resistance with all the Arab world's energies in its struggle to assert its independent national existence on Palestine's historical land.

Voicing their profound distress at the fratricidal and bloodthirsty conflicts assailing fraternal Democratic Yemen, President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi deplored this tragic division, which constitutes a terrible ordeal for the Yemeni people themselves and diverts great resources from collective Arab action. On behalf of their joint struggle for the same causes, they again issued an urgent appeal for an end to bloodshed and a settlement of all disagreements within the framework of South Yemen's legal institutions and within respect for that fraternal country's sovereignty and unity.

President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi examined developments in southern Africa. They saluted the courageous resistance of the ANC, SWAPO, and the Frontline States to the apartheid system. They reasserted their countries' total commitment alongside the ANC and SWAPO to dismantling apartheid and to Namibia's independence.

They assured the Frontline States once again of their support and unswerving solidarity in their struggle for the defense of their territorial integrity and sovereignty.

President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi examined the evolution of the situation in Chad and, in this connection, reasserted their support for national reconciliation in that country as a means of achieving a restoration of Chad's unity and its reconstruction. They also reasserted their support for the plan for a settlement of the Chadian issue embodied in the declaration of the 19th OAU summit in Brazzaville.

President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi once again assured the present OAU chairman and the president of the Congolese Republic of their support support in the fulfillment of the task allotted to them by the OAU with a view to a political settlement of the Chadian issue.

President Chadli Bendjedid and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi examined the worrying trend in the world oil market which is to the detriment of the exporting countries' economic and social stability.

In this context they issued an urgent appeal to the exporters responsible for the present situation of serious decline and urged the other exporting countries to join a collective action with a view to restoring oil prices in defense of their own interests and preservation of their gains.

Further on Talks

PM050905 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French
30 Jan 86 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Algeria's Solidarity With Libya"]

[Text] At their meeting on Wednesday at I-n-Amenas President Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi discussed the situation.

The intensification of Algerian-Libyan relations, the unitary building of the Maghreb and using it to settle the West Saharan problem and the region's other problems, and the placing of Maghreb unity at the service of the Arab cause were deemed to be the priority for future discussions between the two countries.

Examining the situation in the Arab Maghreb, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi informed President Chadli Bendjedid of the gravity of the threats facing the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah because of the U.S. presence in the Gulf of Sidra.

President Chadli Bendjedid reasserted Algeria's resolute attachment to the region's stability and security and deplored all measures likely to jeopardize the security and stability of the greater Maghreb.

President Chadli also assured Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi again of Algeria's solidarity with Libya in preserving its fraternal people's gains, including their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Owing to a transmission error in the French language relay, this section of the account published yesterday of President Chadli Bendjedid's meeting with Col al-Qadhdhafi was unfortunately omitted.

Further on Visit of Uruguayan Foreign Minister

Commercial Agreement Signed

LD051505 Algiers APS in English 1429 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 5 Feb 86 (APS) — An Algerian-Uruguayan agreement on commercial cooperation was signed here Wednesday.

The agreement, the first one ever signed betwen the two countries, delimits the sphere of action of bilateral commercial relations.

The agreement was signed by Trade Minister Abdelaziz Khellef and Uruguayan Minister of External Relations, Enrique Iglesias.

The two ministers expressed their satisfaction about the signature of the agreement and underlined the importance of the establishment and development of bilateral cooperation.

Visit Ends

LD052234 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Enrique Iglesias, Uruguayan minister for external relations, left Algiers this afternoon at the end of his 3-day official visit, during which he was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the party, and conducted talks with a number of officials. Iglesias, in a statement before his departure from Algiers, said that his visit was crowned with success, pointing to the agreement signed between the two countries in the field of trade. He said that his talks with Algerian officials dealt with the situation in Central America and North Africa, asserting in this connection that the two countries believe in constructive dialogue and in resolving conflicts through negotiations. With regard to economic issues, the Uruguayan minister for external relations pointed out that his talks dealt with the question of the decrease in the price of raw materials, particularly oil, the problems of foreign debts, and the question of establishing a more just international economic order.

Iglesias was seen off by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Call From Al-Jumayyil

LD060931 Tripoli JANA in English 0842 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 26, Feb.6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil made a telephone call to the leader of the revolution.

During the telephone contact, the Lebanese president expressed strong condemnation of this act of air piracy by the Zionist enemy's war planes against the small aeroplane of the Libyan Arab airlines on Tuesday by forcing it to land in occupied Palestine.

President al-Jamayyil told the leader of the revolution that Lebanon puts all its resources at the Libyan Arab people's disposal in its brave confrontation with U.S. and Zionist provocations and economic measures.

PFLP-GC's Jibril Threatens U.S., Israeli Planes

NC060657 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0605 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Secretaries of Palestinian resistance groups held a news conference in Tripoli last night. It was attended by Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC; Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, assistant secretary of the Palestine National Liberation Movement — Fatah; Abu 'Ali Mustafa, assistant secretary general of the PFLP; 'Arabi 'Awwad, secretary of the Provisional Command of the Palestinian Communist Party; 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim, secretary of the Palestine Liberation Front; and Abu Nizar [Yahya Saqr Habash], deputy secretary [title as heard] of the Fatah Revolutionary Council.

The news conference, which was covered by several foreign correspondents, began with a statement by Brother Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC. He condemned the act of air piracy that he said was the result of cooperation among the Zionists, the American intelligence agency, and the ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean.

Brother Jibril noted that the Zionist enemy made no attempt to conceal his responsibility for this operation. He also pointed out that the United States viewed the Zionist enemy's act as legitimate.

Brother Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC, issued a warning [tahdhir] to all passengers thinking of traveling on Israeli or American airliners in the future. He advised them not do so.

Jibril announced: Henceforth, we will not be responsible for any civilians aboard these planes.

This was Jibril's comment on the Zionist's act of air piracy against a small Libyan plane carrying a Syrian delegation back to Damascus.

Jibril added: This incident, which was the product of complete coordination between the U.S. Government and the Zionists, clearly means that an all-out battle has begun. Therefore, we declare that we are free to take the appropriate measures in response to these attacks.

While answering journalists' questions, Jibril stated the Zionist air pirates were prepared to fire on the Libyan civil aircraft if it did not comply with their orders to land in occupied Palestine. Jibril said that in the eyes of U.S. imperialism and Zionism, the Palestinian revolution depends on names and individuals. They do not realize that the Palestinian people's revolution will continue generation after generation, whether their leaders remain alive or die.

Another Palestinian leader, Brother Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, assistant secretary of the Palestine National Liberation Movement — Fatah, emphasized that all Arab revolutionary forces in every one of their positions are prepared to confront any imperialist act of aggression against the Jamahiriyah. He said: The Americans will cross the Gulf of Sidra over our dead bodies. He added: We will fight them wherever they may be in the Arab homeland.

People's Committee Member Views Plane Interception

MB051920 London BBC World Service in English
1616 GMT 5 Feb 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The international row between Libya, Israel, and United States took a bizarre twist yesterday. Israel and America accused Colonel al-Qadhdhafi of harboring Palestinian terrorists and American warships are cruising in the Mediterranean off the Libyan coast. Well, yesterday, Israeli warplanes forced down a Libyan executive jet believed, mistakenly as it turned out, to be carrying Palestinian guerrilla leaders. The plane was later allowed to continue on its way. On the line to Tripoli, Robin White asked Mr (al-Hudari), a member of the people's committees, what the mood was there following the incident.

[Begin recording] [(Al-Hudari)] The mood, it should be not just in Tripoli, it should be everywhere. I think the whole civilized world should condemn this kind of act of terrorism by the Israeli, and I think it is a flagrant violation of international law and I think it is just disgusting, and I think the United States, always talking of so-called stopping terrorism, this is the time to show what side they are on.

[White] Some people might say that you started all this and therefore deserve what has happened.

[(Al-Hudari)] Oh, that is ridiculous! In what way?

[White] By harboring so-called terrorists in Libya.

[(Al-Hudari)] Imagine yourself a passenger on this plane, what can you say? Anybody, can imagine themselves on that plane, what would they say? We haven't started anything. I think they are always looking for pretext, they are always looking for a silly justification, but this is the time to say either yes or no to terrorism.

[White] But hasn't Libya been harboring people who have themselves been involved in hijacking aircraft?

[(Al-Hudari)] That is not, that is not the question. The question is we are against terrorism of all kinds. We condemn it. We are against it. We are working with anybody who can stop it. But we cannot accept ridiculous accusation or ridiculous charges that cannot be proved.

[White] How do you think yesterday's incident fits in with the verbal battle you are currently having with the United States?

[(Al-Hudari)] I think the United States is in a position, they don't know what to do, because I think the United States, they know they are wrong, they know they cannot succeed. They know that Libya is not alone but the lesson they can't understand is: instead of using their gunboat diplomacy, they can use their brains and sit with us and say what they want.

[White] Other countries in the Arab world have promised you assistance, they have said that they are behind you, but do you think there is really Arab solidarity behind you?

[(Al-Hudari)] I think what matters is the whole Arab world and the whole civilized world will be on the side of Libya if any action was taken by the United States. We cannot accept dictation or humiliation or threat by the 6th Fleet or any other force.

[White] But when it really comes to the crunch, can you really imagine other Arab countries who are rather more conservative than you actually giving you military support?

[(Al-Hudari)] I cannot make any speculation but the only thing I know is that the Arabs, I mean the Arab people, they will stand against the United States regardless of their rulers and regardless of the decision of their rulers and I think it is for the best interest of the rulers to help their people stand against the aggression of the United States and stand on the side of Libya. [End recording]

Armed Forces Commander Receives PFLP's Habash

LD051940 Tripoli JANA in English 1852 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 25, Feb.5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces received today Dr. George Habash the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

PFLP's Habash Acknowledges Longstanding Support

LD051751 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Feb (JANA)—PFLP Secretary General George Habash has stressed that the support given by U.S. naval warships in the Mediterranean to the Zionist pirates in hijacking the Libyan civil aircraft confirms again, clearly and tangibly, that the center of international terrorism is not in the Jamahiriyah as alleged by the U.S. Administration but in the Zionist entity and in the imperialist U.S. country.

Replying to a question connected with the support given by the Jamahiriyah to the Palestinian people, Habash said that it is common knowledge that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah constitutes the center of moral, political and material support for all liberation forces in the world, and consequently to speak of support for the struggle of the Palestinian people by the Libyan Arab people is tautology.

He added: We declare with pride that the Jamahiriyah has been and continues to be the genuine support of the Palestinians not only this year or last year but for several years. The Jamahiriyah has always been the effective true support of the Palestinian struggle.

Statement on Oil Talks With Algeria, Iran Issued

LD060359 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] At the conclusion of the meeting held in Tripoli between the secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning and entrusted with oil affairs in the Jamahiriyah, the Algerian minister of energy, and Iranian minister of petroleum, a press statement was released. It stated:

In light of the current prevailing situation in the oil markets, and within the framework of existing consultation between the OAPEC member-countries, the Algerian and Iranian ministers of oil and the secretary of planning entrusted with oil in Libya have met in Tripoli from 3 to 5 February 1986. The conferees have expressed their concern over the oil market's instability and have exchanged views relating to the ways and means conducive to restoring and correcting the oil market situation by controlling production and defending prices. The price decline has thus far had negative consequences which have influenced the economies of the oil exporting countries and only benefited the advanced industrial countries' economic growth. Bearing in mind that warnings have been served against the present political pressures aimed at weakening OAPEC's unity, the conferees attach great importance to OAPEC's, which has contributed to reinforcing Third World countries' causes. They appeal to the governments of all member-countries to work toward reinforcing the organization's power and unity at this grave crossroad.

In this regard, and in an endeavor to utilize the adequate means to face up to the situation, the conferees also have agreed to widen the circle of consultation and coordination with the rest of the oil exporting countries.

MAURITANIA

Cooperation Talks With Mali Open in Nouakchott

LD052359 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The fourth session of the supreme joint committee for Mauritanian-Malian cooperation opened a short time ago in the lecture room in the Permanent Secretariat of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN], under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the CMSN and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Alioune Blondin Beye, the Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation. The two foreign ministers exchanged speeches.

Lt Col Ahmed Ould Minnih pointed out that this session will review the objective results of our economic, technical, and commercial relations since the holding of the third session of this committee in Bamako in 1983. He said that this session will open new horizons, which will lead the activities of our (?countries) during this year.

Alioune Blondin Beye praised the excellence of the existing relations binding the countries.

Alioune Blondin Beye arrived in our capital this evening. He was received at the airport by Lt Col Ahmed Ould Minnih, our ambassador to Bamako, and the Malian ambassador to our country. After his arrival, the Malian guest talked with his Mauritanian counterpart about the opening of the fourth session of the supreme joint committee for Mauritanian-Malian cooperation.

MOROCCO

King Sends Letter to UN on Israeli Interception

LD052221 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Feb 86

["Text" of letter from King Hassan II to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar]

[Text] To the UN secretary general:

On 4 February the Israeli Air Force obstructed a civilian Libyan aircraft in international airspace and forced it to land at an Israeli military airbase. This affair concerns an act of air piracy committed deliberately by a state that considers itself a member of the international community. This is an act that the international conscience abhors and which is severely punished by law. This is not the first time that Israel has violated basic human rights. A short while ago Israel intentionally and explicitly denied the most basic commitments specified by international laws and charters. These Israeli actions, which in fact are repeated aggressions, are flagrant violations of the aims and principles of the UN Charter and a grave threat to peace and security.

By violating the legitimacy on which relations between the nations are established, Israel loses the quality of being a country of law and thus places itself outside the international community. This is the punishment which should be adopted against it.

The crimes of nations and the acts of aggression committed by Israel, which cannot be described otherwise, if not confronted with the severe punishment they deserve, might lead all mankind into an unlimited series of arbitrary and illegal actions.

The Arab and Islamic masses and their leaders, whom we represent as current chairman of the Arab summit, the ICO, and the Jerusalem Committee, are the targets at which Israel primarily aims and which it directly threatens. We have all opted to safeguard ourselves with legitimacy, so we ask you and the United Nations today to firmly adopt all the necessary measures in order to enforce respect for this legitimacy.

Secretary General, please accept our highest regards,

[Signed] Hasan II, king of Morocco

Prime Minister Lamrani Receives Libyan Official

LD051344 Rabat MAP in English 1234 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Rabat, Feb 5 (MAP) — Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karim Lamrani received here Tuesday evening, the visiting Libyan secretary of public welfare provisions, Mr Muhammad al-Mabruk.

Talks centered on issues of common interest and means of further consolidating the Arabo-African union, mainly through exchanging expertise, labour forces, and staff and vocational training.

Mr al-Mabruk had conferred earlier on Tuesday with Mr Abderrahim Ben Abdeljalil, minister delegate in charge of administrative affairs, with whom he discussed both countries' experiences in matters of administrative reforms.

On Tuesday morning, Mr al-Mabruk and Moroccan Minister of Labour Hassan Abdadi had jointly chaired a meeting of the Moroccan-Libya joint commission on manpower and social welfare.

Opening the meeting, the two ministers stressed the important phases the two countries have made in consolidating the Arab-African Union they have concluded, and expressed hope this trend will continue for the benefit of both peoples.

Three sub-commissions were set up during this meeting with a view to examining issues pertaining to manpower, social welfare, and exchange of cadres between the two countries.

Committee Denounces Spanish 'Acts of Oppression'

LD052343 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, Borders, Occupied Territories, and National Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies strongly denounced the acts of oppression committed over the past weeks against the inhabitants of the Moroccan cities of Ceuta and Melilla by the Spanish security forces. In a statement issued after a special session held yesterday, the committee urged the Spanish authorities to halt those inhuman and racist acts whose time had passed. It also urged the Spanish authorities to look at the situation of these two cities with a new and realistic mentality separate from the spirit of colonialist hegemony which no longer has a place in relations between the Moroccan and the Spanish people. It also expressed absolute solidarity with the Moroccan inhabitants who have been in fact the original owners of the land for thousands of years and who cannot be described as foreigners in any way. The committee, which is to continue studying this issue, confirms the need to find a final solution which confirms the Moroccan sovereignty over the two occupied territories and the Moroccan islands in the Mediterranean adjoining them.

SUDAN

Siwar al-Dhahab Receives Uganda President's Envoy

EA061602 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Today General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, the chairman of the Transitional Military Council, received a message from Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, concerning the current situation in Uganda and ways to strengthen relations between the two countries. The message was handed over when Gen Siwar al-Dhahab received Felix Onama, the personal envoy of President Museveni, at the People's Palace at noon today.

Siwar al-Dhahab assured the Ugandan envoy that the foreign policy, which Sudan has pursued since the April uprising, has not changed. This applies particularly to good-neighborly relations with other states and noninterference in their affairs.

Mr Onama explained that his current visit to Sudan is confirmation of the firm relations between Sudan and Uganda. Its aim is to brief Sudanese officials on the real situation in Uganda.

The Ugandan delegation, which arrived in the country at dawn today, will also pay a visit to the southern region in order to acquaint itself with the conditions of Ugandan refugees there.

Receives CAR Minister

JN051834 Khartoum SUNA in English 1738 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb 5 (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab received here today the Central African state foreign minister who handed him a message from Central African President Kolingba pertaining to bilateral relations.

The Central Africa state minister, who is currently presiding over his country's delegation to joint ministerial committee meetings here, hailed, after his meeting with Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab, the ideal relations between the two countries.

The joint committee will discuss all fields that help bolstering and developing bilateral relations said the state minister.

Defense Minister Returns From Talks in Syria

JN031930 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1738 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Feb (SUNA) — Sudanese Defense Minister Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah returned to Khartoum this afternoon after a weeklong visit to Syria during which he held two rounds of official talks with the Syrian side. The results of the talks were excellent regarding ways to promote cooperation between the armed forces of both countries in training, and exchange of expertise and technical information.

In a statement to the press, the minister said that during his visit he conveyed written messages from Transitional Military Council Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab and Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with ways to strengthen and promote bilateral relations in the service of the Arab nation and the Sudanese and Syrian people. He also pointed out that he discussed with Al-Asad issues of mutual interest and of interest to the Arab nation and that he sensed enthusiasm from the Syrian president regarding support for Sudan in various fields.

The defense minister also said that during his meeting with 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, he discussed factors which are threatening the Arab nation's security, as well as the Syrian Ba'th Party's trend and concept of ways to protect Arabism and keep it away from the superpowers' strategic conflicts. He also said that he visited the main branches of the Syrian Armed Forces, the naval command, and the air defense forces, adding that President Hafiz al-Asad asked him to convey his greetings to the Sudanese people and their official political leadership and party and expressed his pride in the Sudanese people's uprising.

His excellency also met with Al-Khuwaylidi, member of the historic leadership of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who was visiting Syria, and discussed with him the threats which Libya is facing as a result of U.S. military maneuvers near the Gulf of Sidra, reassuring himself of the soundness of the situation in Libya.

The defense minister also announced that donations during the week of solidarity with Sudan in Syria under the patronage of 'Abdallah al-Ahmar totalled 40 million Syrian pounds, adding that Syria is taking necessary measures to transfer this sum to Sudan, either as cash or foodstuffs. He also affirmed that the Sudanese students and community in Syria, including those working in international organizations and bodies, are ready to participate in the elections and to go to Sudan to cast their votes.

Fears Israeli Attack

LD061604 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1452 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait 6 Feb (KUNA) — The Sudanese defense minister has said that he has now become sure that "the next Israeli strike could well be against Palestinian positions in Sudan, and this is why we have raised the level of the state of alert."

In an interview with Kuwaiti *AL-WATAN*, published today, he says that according to Israeli officials' statements on Sudan and the existence of hostile air reconnaissance flights in the Red Sea region, which have been monitored in Sudan and neighboring states, it has become certain to us "that the next Israeli strike could be against Palestinian positions in Sudan, and particularly in the Red Sea region."

He praised his visits to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Libya, saying that he would be making another tour to Kuwait and Qatar before next April's Sudanese elections, but no specific date was fixed.

The Sudanese minister affirmed the eagerness of the Transitional Military Council and that of the Council of Ministers to "transfer the power to the people on 26 April," hoping to see the political parties engaged in completing the preliminary stages of the elections. 22 April is election day.

He expressed pessimism about the national reconciliation conference, which the government intends to hold next March to discuss the question of the south, and whether it would lead to a rapprochement of views. He added that partial elections might be held excluding the zones of conflict in the south.

'Uthman 'Abdallah denied the existence of an agreed upon plan for mediation between Egypt and Libya, despite the fact that Sudan was, as he put it, "fully qualified to perform this role, given its special relations with the two neighbor countries." He attributes this to the fact that Egypt is not thinking about abrogating the Camp David accords, whereas Libya believes that Egypt's abandonment of the accords is an urgent requirement for entering into a dialogue.

He denied the existence of pressure on Sudan to curtail its relations with the Soviet Union, stressing that the delaying of the visit of a Sudanese military delegation to the Soviet Union "had occured at the request of the Soviet Union, and that another date had been fixed for it."

Daf'allah, Aru Receive Visiting British MP's

JN051032 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb. 5 (SUNA) — Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah yesterday conferred with two members of the British Conservative Party at the British House of Commons, currently visiting the country.

Following the meeting, Daf'allah told SUNA that the meeting discussed efforts being exerted to combat effects of famine. He added that he briefed them on steps taken so far as regards democracy and elections.

Present at the meeting were Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub and the British ambassador to Khartoum.

Deputy Prime Minister Samuel Aru yesterday also reviewed with the British politicians the political changes that occured in Sudan following the April popular uprising.

The meeting was reported to have discussed preparations for elections as well as the serious endeavours made so far by the government to solve the south Sudan question.

The delegation is visiting the country to get acquainted with the political changes and the rehabilitation operations and means of boosting them further.

IMF Refuses To Extend Additional Credit

JN051806 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 5 (SUNA) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) today said Sudan was incompetent [as received] for receiving more credits because of its failure to honour its debt arrears due for repayment on Feb 3rd.

About 250 million dollars, out of the next seven years' total of 6950 million, which had been due for repayment on Jan 3rd had been deferred to Feb 3.

Finance and Economic Planning Minister Sayyid Ahmad Tayfur who attended the meetings of the governors of the IMF said Sduan will repay part of the arrears and adopt austere (?economic) measures to rectify the economy, but the meeting refused his proposals.

Informed sources here said the IMF decision will be revocable if Sudan repayed the arrears.

The decision will not include a recent loan worth 60 million dollars which has not yet been wiithdrawn, the sources said. The sources explained that the IMF decision will indirectly affect Sudan's dealing with the whole international community.

The new programme between Sudan and the IMF centered on Sudan's rejection of some of the provisions, which the fund put forward, including prices hikes through removal of subsidy, lessening of borrowing from the banking system, cutting of money supply and liberalizing of the rate of the Sudanese pound to be dictated by the commercial banks.

On Jan 3 the IMF put off its decision until Feb 3 pending the results of negotiations between the two sides over clinching the differences.

On the other hand the sources said Sudan had received initial pledge from some sisterly and friendly countries including Saudi Arabia and the U.S.

The IMF decision will incorporate Sudan to the countries, recently listed as incompatible for credits, which include Liberia, Vietnam, Guyana and Cambodia.

Housing Minister Reacts

JN051845 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 5 (SUNA) — The collapse of the talks between Sudan and the IMF does not mean the end of everything, and though we have done our best for the success of the talks taking into consideration [words indistinct], still the talks have failed due to the intransigency of the IMF, echoed Construction and Housing Minister Amin Makki Meadani.

His statement came following the IMF's declaration that Sudan would be considered an "ineligible country to receive credits." The minister said there is a tendency of developing cooperation with Arab finance funds.

He did not, however, rule out the possibility of developing relations with the Eastern bloc countries.

Cabinet Discusses 'Unruly Wave' of Strikes

JN051840 Khartoum SUNA in English 1742 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 5 (SUNA) — The Cabinet today debated the unruly wave of strikes throughout the country and said it will not respond to the sectarian demands as far as those employees resort to stoppage and threats.

In its regular meeting today, the Cabinet committed itself to its declared policies which said it will reply to the demands as far as employees are mounting pressure by means of strike.

On the other hand the Cabinet got acquainted with the recent events in Port Sudan, which claimed 16 deaths and injured about another 100 people, through the report that was forwarded by the Governor of the Eastern Region.

Initial Agreement Reached Between Disputing Tribes

JN051536 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Feb (SUNA) — An initial agreement has been reached between the two disputing tribes of Nuba and Bani 'Amir in Port Sudan, Eastern Region, with the aim of establishing reconciliation between them.

This was announced here today by Police Lieutenant General Ibrahim Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim, acting police director general, who asserted that the situation is totally calm. He added that the curfew is still valid.

His excellency explained that the Eastern Region's governor has set up a fact-finding committee under the judge of the court of appeals. At the same time reconciliation committees, along with the region's security committee, are working to reach a final agreement.

The tribal clash, which took place following a political seminar at the Dar al-Na'im area, left 16 people killed and 111 injured.

Army Source Denies Rebels Occupying Villages
JN060950 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 6 (SUNA) — A source at the Army General Command was denied BBC report that rebel forces have occupied "Lor" and Adok villages in the south.

But the source admitted yesterday that an armed forces unit that left Bentiu carrying rations and salaries to troops stationed at "Lor" had been attacked by a rebel force 25 miles away from their destination.

The source said the army unit had eventually managed to arrive safely at "Lor" after inflicting heavy losses on the attacking force which lost its commander and 204 rebels.

The source said huge quantities of arms including kalashnikov, bazooka and hand grenades were confiscated.

SPLA Radio Reports Army Truck Blown Up in Akobo
EA051650 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1200 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] One 6-wheel Magirus truck belonging to Siwar al-Dhahab's army was blown up in Akobo as it was leaving Akobo garrison on 1 February 1986. According to Radio SPLA correspondent in the area the Magirus, No 232 D 30, was carrying two platoons of soldiers who were believed to have died all in the disaster.

According to our correspondent, the landmine was laid by Sergeant (Buloze Shuol Ayom) and Corporal Simon (Kurdilla Banjam).

Judiciary To Continue Islamic Law in All Courts
JN041105 Khartoum SUNA in English 1050 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 4 (SUNA) — The judiciary will continue implementing the Islamic laws in all court including the hudod (Islamic penalties). Chairman of the Judiciary Muhammad Mirghani announced.

He added the judiciary has confirmed hudod sentences. Mirghani was quoted by the daily *AL-SAHAFAH* published here today as reaffirming that he has submitted to the Transitional Military Council (TMC) 42 cases of execution for approval following the recommendation of the supreme court. Meanwhile, the high judiciary council will hold on the coming few days a meeting to examine TMC decisions on some recommendations on the judicial [word indistinct] submitted recently by the judiciary.

TUNISIA

Foreign Ministry Source Condemns Plane Interception
LD051323 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Following the forcing of the civilian airliner which was on its way to Syria carrying Syrian officials to land in Israel, an authorized source at the Tunisian Foreign Ministry has stated the following:

Tunisia sees the interception of this airliner as a violation of international laws and standards, and a grave infringement on the freedom of civilian aviation navigation. It considers this act state terrorism that could open the door wide to the law of the jungle; introduce serious disturbances on civilian transport means; threaten the safety of passengers; and lead to complications, the dimensions and results of which would be difficult to foresee.

Tunisia condemns this practice and calls on the international community to adopt a firm attitude toward it, to take the initiative in condemning it, and to take deterrent measures against its authors so as to prevent an escalation of this matter and spare the world the danger it represents.

Prime Minister Returns From African Tour 4 Feb
LD050013 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Mohammad Mzali, prime minister of interior, returned home last evening after a tour of eight African countries which lasted 11 days.

The prime minister was received at Tunis-Carthage International Airport by the members of the government, Political Bureau, and a group of the party and state cadres.

USSR Foreign Minister To Visit Tunisia
NC051420 Cairo MENA in English 1336 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tunis, Feb 5 (MENA) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is due to visit Tunisia at the invitation of the Tunisian Government, weekly newspaper *AL-RA'Y* reported today. No date was fixed for the visit, the paper said. The invitation shows that the Tunisian Government is steadily seeking to promote its relations with the two superpowers, the paper added.

Arab League Head Meets Mzali, Departs for Libreville
LD052233 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, conferred today at the government palace in Qasabah with Mr Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League, who gave the following statement after the meeting:

Before leaving for Libreville, the capital of Gabon where I will meet President Omar Bongo, I wanted to meet the prime minister to learn about the results of his wide and successful African tour of information and impressions, especially concerning the future of Arab-African cooperation.

He said: I think that Mr Mohamed Mzali's tour was extremely positive in consolidating relations between the Arab and African groups. I hope that such visits by Arab officials will continue and increase to consolidate the amicable and solidarity relations between the Arab and African groups. In this way we will be able to block the road of those who have insincere intentions and who only try to build obstacles between the Arab countries and the fraternal African countries.

Mr Chedli Klibi left Tunisia this evening for Libreville on a 2-day official visit to Gabon.

Labor Union Announces Delegation of Duties

LD041350 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1205 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Tunis 4 Feb (TAP) — The National Coordination Bureau of the UGTT [Tunisian General Labor Federation] has issued the following statement: In accordance with the decision made by the Administrative Board during its 29 January 1986 meeting at Yunan Street in Tunis, which provided for enlarging the National Coordination Bureau in light of the development of the trade unionist work, and in view of the action program that has been drawn up aiming at the renovation of cadres and the preparation for the UGTT conference, it has been decided to distribute tasks among all various members of the National Coordination Bureau as follows:

Ali Machaal: In charge of coordination with the UGTT branches;
Abdelsattar Chank: In charge of finance and administration;
Sayyid Hedi: In charge of bylaws affairs;
Hamid Rouiss: In charge of orientation;
Hamid Dabbabi: In charge of information, publication, and documentation;
Abdelkarim Ben Salim: In charge of foreign affairs;
Mohamed Abghir Tabassi: In charge of public service;
Ali Smeris: In charge of relations with national organizations; and
Hammadi Dreibek: In charge of companies and offices.

DJIBOUTI

First Plane Arrives From PDRY With Evacuees

EA041952 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The first plane since suspension of flights from Aden belonging to PDRY airways, arrived at the international airport of Djibouti at 1800 today.

The plane was carrying 48 passengers and a crew of eight. Our reporter at Djibouti international airport says that most of the passengers were Djibouti citizens. Some of the passengers told our reporter that they decided to leave Aden at the first opportunity for fear that fighting might flare up in the capital, Aden, once again as tension still prevails among the various groups of armed people in Aden, who all claim to belong to the Socialist Party of Aden.

Our reporter adds that most of the passengers were very happy to be out of Aden which some of them termed as a death trap, because most of them were in grave danger since the factional fighting erupted in Aden. Our reporter further said that some of the sobbing passengers kissed the ground and thanked almighty God that they were out of Aden. Some of the other passengers included people from Saudi Arabia, North Yemeni citizens, and other nationalities.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Leaves for Visit to France 3 Feb

EA031036 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Excerpt] President Challe Muhammad Siad Barre left for France last night at the head of a delegation which will attend a meeting of leaders from Europe and Africa. Addressing Ministry of Information reporters at the airport's VIP lounge, the president said the meeting would discuss issues pertaining to the environment and various climatic effects on the environment. Challe Muhammad Siad Barre also disclosed that at the end of the meeting he will stay on in France for a short visit at the invitation of President Mitterrand. He will have talks with President Mitterrand on ways to improve bilateral relations and cooperation.

President Challe Muhammad Siad Barre wished the Somali people progress and prosperity and urged them to exploit the country's resources and to strengthen their unity.

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Calls for 'Urgent Measures' on Economy

EA011603 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] Dodoma — President Ali Hassan Mwinyi today issued a warning about the poor national economic situation and said the situation would deteriorate further if urgent measures were not taken to improve it. He said in the past 5 years our economy has been sliding, causing great damage to national development. Ndugu Mwinyi was opening a special meeting for regional commissioners, which is to consider national policy on agriculture and livestock. The ministers at the meeting have been invited to contribute to this important issue.

The president said that as a result of the poor economic situation the average annual expenditure of the government and its organs had been more than 1.2 billion shillings, while production in agriculture and trade had been declining from year to year. He stated that this had resulted in increasing food imports to make up for the yearly shortage, which was paid for in foreign exchange which was also decreasing every year.

Ndugu Mwinyi added that because of the poor economic situation, Tanzania owed huge debts and was losing its ability to repay them. For example: Up to December of last year, Tanzania had not paid a debt of 262 million [currency not specified] which had fallen due, while its total debt was 8 billion, 879.5 million shillings. Public corporations had accumulated huge losses, amounting to 2.483 billion shillings.

Ndugu Mwinyi said the foreign exchange revenue had declined from $563 million in 1981 to $367 million in 1984, while expenditure had increased to $839 million.

President Mwinyi said no matter how much assistance he asked for, our basic economic problems would remain. He stressed that the real solution to the problem was to empahsize agriculture, particularly on better methods of farming. He said the policy on farming and livestock was the nation's only guide in its struggle of economic liberation.

UGANDA

Museveni Urges Civil Service To Avoid Lobbyists

EA311949 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Excerpts] President Yoweri Museveni has pledged the determination of the National Resistance Movement to protect the integrity of the Uganda civil service.

Addressing permanent secretaries in Kampala today, the president urged them to use their professional expertise to serve the people of Uganda freely and fairly now that the reign of terror and confusion has been put to an end.

On the running of ministries, President Museveni appealed to permanent secretaries to protect their ministers from long queues of favored speakers who have made it a habit in the past to flock into government offices, thereby distracting ministers from performing their national duties.

The president also advised the permanent secretaries to restrict government purchases to deserving and priority requirements.

Kisekka Interviewed on Corruption, Rural Areas

EA052209 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Samson Kisekka, has reemphasized that the new government will not victimize anyone on political, religious and tribal lines. He called upon all Ugandans to work together to build a prosperous Uganda. In an interview with a correspondent of the New China News Agency and staff of *SABA SABA* newspaper in Kampala, Dr Kisekka said that the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government is people's government, and will not tolerate corrupt elements in the society, for they have in the past been cheating the Ugandan population.

He stressed that members of the National Resistance Council will be working at the grassroots level in order to acquaint themselves with the problems of the people in rural areas so that the government can act on their recommendations. The prime minister also called upon the people to initiate development plans and assure the people of the determination of the NRM government to take services to the people in the rural areas, especially in the agricultural, health, education and social (?fields).

NRA Official Urges Okello troops To Give Up Guns

EA051143 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] A commissioner in the chief administrators office of the National Resistance Movement, NRM, in Kampala, Mr John Obina, has appealed to organizations and individuals in northern Uganda who have been authorized to handle cases of former UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army], UNRF [Uganda National Rescue Front] and FUNA [Former Uganda National Army] soldiers to try, where possible, to send a feedback to the government for analysis regarding the progress or achievements made.

In a press release issued in Kampala this morning, Mr Obina repeated President Museveni's appeal to UNLA, UNRF, and FUNA soldiers to cooperate with the government by returning their weapons to authorities agreed upon by the government and the Kampala North Consultative Group. Mr Obina, a founder member of the National Resistance Movement, NRM, from northern Uganda, reassured them that the government is not going to allow any molestation of individuals who will surrender and cooperate with it. He said the whole problem had been brought about as a result of past poor leadership or lack of leadership and love for the people of Uganda by some primitive politicians who had no love for the people of Uganda, in general, and the people of northern Uganda, in particular.

Sudanese Disarming Okello Troops

EA061036 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 6 Feb 86 p 1

[By *STANDARD* special correspondent: "Sudan Disarms Okello Troops"]

[Text] Reports reaching Kampala from southern Sudan said the Sudanese Army has amassed troops on the Uganda border to stop General Tito Okello's defeated troops from crossing into Sudan with their weapons. The soldiers are beind disarmed and put in the receiving centres, a source close to the Sudanese Embassy in Kampala, has disclosed here.

Recent reports from southern Sudan said Gen Okello had crossed into Sudan with several of his ministers and hundreds of armed troops. And the war in northern Uganda between the NRA [National Resistance Army] forces and Gen Okello's men is likely to paralyse southern Sudan, especially the township of Juba, if it is prolonged. This is because the only supply route to the area through Soroti and Gulu has been cut off, a Roman Catholic priest who escaped from Gulu told *THE STANDARD* in Kampala.

The missionary said, after capturing Mbale last Sunday the NRA forces were heading towards Soroti town, in Eastern Uganda. They would then gun for the northern regional town of Gulu, the home town of Gen Okello, and former army commander Lieutenant-General Basilio Olara Okello. Juba, with a population of about 400,000 people, has only one supply route from the Kenyan sea port of Mombasa, which passes through Tororo, Mbale, Soroti and Gulu before crossing the Sudan border.

The priest, who declined to be named, said several European Roman Catholic church-aid workers and missionaries had been caught up in the war in northern Uganda and were stranded there. He said missionaries belonging to the Verona fathers were stranded in a mission in Gulu and European doctors and sisters working at a 200-bed hospital for lepers were stranded at their leprosy centrre between Lira and Gulu. He said for the past four days artillery and mortar exchanges between the NRA and Gen Okello's troops could be heard near the leprosium. The hospital is being guarded by only spear-wielding Askaris, he added.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people have begun trekking back to their homes in the Luwero Triangle. Luwero Triangle, which was the scene of fierce fighting between forces loyal to former President Milton Obote and the NRA, had been completely deserted and was being policed by heavily armed soldiers for the last five years. Although a number of residential houses are still standing in the thick bush, most of them with no doors or windows, returnees have begun cleaning their houses and cutting the bush in readiness to inhabit them. Some of Gen Okello's fleeing soldiers are said to be hiding in the swampy areas in the triangle and that only two days ago, three of them were captured by the local people as they tried to sneak away from their hide-out to look for food.

In another development, a long line of trucks loaded with exports from Rwanda, Burundi and eastern Zaire has reached the Ugandan capital, on their way to Mombasa following the capture of Jinja, Iganga and Tororo towns by the NRA.

These landlocked countries had been adversely affected by the five-months blockade mounted by the NRA on the Kampala-Masaka road.

Sudanese President's 'Pledge' Received

EA021959 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMt 2 Feb 86

[Text] Sudan has assured the new Uganda Government that not an inch of Sudanese territory will be used by any dissidents to disturb the peace and stability of Uganda or any of her neighbors. The pledge was conveyed to President Museveni by the Sudanese ambassador to Uganda, Mr (?said) 'abd al-Rahman, who called on him at his office in Parliament Building in Kampala to convey congratulations and best wishes from President Siwar al-Dhahab.

Mr Museveni asked the Sudanese Government to help Uganda to recover the property of the government from fleeing soldiers. He assured the envoy that his government will not tolerate the fragmentation of Sudan or any other African country. He offered to talk to the Sudanese rebel leader, Colonel Garang, to find out what he wants.

Allegations of Mass Killings in North Denied

EA041858 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The Kampala Northern Consultative Group has dismissed as false and without foundation allegations made by the former chief of the defense forces, Lieutent general Basilio Olara Okello that there was mass killing of persons from northern Uganda by the NRA in Kampala and other liberated areas.

In a statement issued in Kampala this evening, the group called on Lt Gen Olara Okello not to misuse his influence to endanger the lives of innocent soldiers and civilians. They said they are fully satisfied, beyond reasonable doubt, about the outcome of their previous discussions with the government on the arrangements such as arms surrender up to parish levels and issue of certificates for free movement of members of the former fighting forces coupled with possible absorption into the 25th Battalion after the surrender. They said these positive measures to bring about means [as heard] and peaceful surrender are a clear indication of the government's good intention to avoid and minimize unnecessary bloodshed.

The Kampala Northern Consultative Group therefore further appeals to both the young and old members of the UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] FUNA [Former Uganda Antional Army] UNRF [Uganda National Rescue Front] and individuals who may be holding military fire arms to surrender them immediately to the government, traditional, and religious authorities as already asked.

The statement said the Kampala group is extremely concerned of the young officers and men who are in the Armed Forces and group advisers. [sentence as heard]. The statement assured them that they have an opportunity to regain their livelihood and enjoy normal life and fundamental human rights if only they can respond to the appeal of surrender and utilize the reabsorption or the resettlement program already worked out by the government. The group called on religious leaders, elders, parents, and relatives of former soldiers to use their connections with the members of the Armed Forces to respond positively to the appeal for peaceful surrender.

Minister Denies Police Force Disbanded

EA041944 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The government has not disbanded the Uganda police force and therefore the police is to continue with its day to day duty as before. This has been stated by the new minister of internal affairs, Dr (Ceasar) Besigye, when he was meeting senior members of his ministry, the Uganda police, prisons, immigration and government laboratory departments in Kampapa today.

Mr Besigye noted with satisfaction the devotion to duty by the officials and appealed to them to be patient although there are problems facing their departments. He called for commitment to duty adding that everybody in office is to continue with his work without fear. The minister also assured the officials that employment is the right of every citizen regardless of ones political affiliations. He called for a healthy method of work, open discussion and constructive criticism for national interest rather than individual interest.

The minister warned that he will not entertain personal interests but stressed the need for (?structural work) but not that [word indistinct]. Earlier, the minister was briefed on the staffing of the ministry by the permanent secretary, Mr Ben Dranadri. The commissioner of prisons, Mr Barnabas Byabazayire, briefed the minister on various issues concerning the Uganda prisons while the inspector-general of police, Mr Luke Ofunji, briefed him on the security situation within Kampala and problems facing Uganda police. Present among others were the commissioner of immigration, Mr (Doye), and the government chemist, Mr (Okello Bulemerio).

CAMEROON

Mzali Concludes 1-Day 'Positive' Visit

LD020337 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Mohamed Mzali departed Yaounde yesterday morning following an official 1-day visit to Cameroon during which he held a lengthy and fruitful discussion with Cameroonian President Paul Biya. At a news conference prior to departing Yaounde airport, Mohamed Mzali stressed that the visit was full of activity despite its length, and that the talks he held with the president of Cameroon made it possible to revitalize the two countries' cooperation. He added that his visit to Cameroon, similar to his visits to other African countries, was positive and it will lead to joint projects and to a high and intensive level of exchanges in the coming months and years.

Following Mohamed Mzali's official visit to Cameroon, a press statement was issued. It said that Tunisian delegation members met with their Cameroonian counterparts. The two sides reviewed the current problems at the African and international levels and discussed bilateral issues. It was noted that identical views were recorded regarding all these matters. The two sides expressed their concern with regard to the African sphere, over the continuing conflicts and tension on the continent that threaten stability and prevent the consolidation of African countries' independence and the development of their economies.

The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to solving differences among African countries in peaceful ways. They reaffirmed their support for all efforts in international arenas for achieving Namibian independence, destroying apartheid in South Africa, and establishing a majority government there. The two sides reaffirmed their continued support for the Palestinian people and its legitimate representative, the PLO. They stressed that a just and lasting peace in the region cannot be achieved without the Palestinian people exercising their national rights. They stressed the need for an overall reassessment of economic negotiations to rebuild the world economic order. They expressed their satisfaction at the state of the two countries' relations and affirmed their wish for strengthening bilateral cooperation and developing it [words indistinct]. Mohamed Mzali extended an invitation on behalf of President Habib Bourguiba to President Paul Biya to pay an official visit to Tunisia.

TAP [TUNISIAN NEWS AGENCY] has learned that the Tunisian and Cameroonian delegations agreed to strengthen bilateral economic cooperation in the trade field [words indistinct] that will give a greater impetus to exchanges in both directions and to negotiate barter contracts that will cover many years. The Cameroonian-Tunisian products will include bartering coffee and cotton, in particular, with wines, food products, chemical fertilizers and textiles. Agreement also was reached on organizing Tunisian trade weeks in Cameroon during which significant quantities of Tunisian products will be marketed [words indistinct]. This will be an excellent way of introducing these products to Cameroon markets.

The two sides agreed to make every effort in the industrial field to create joint projects in the field of agricultural industry including fodder, food exports, processing alcohol, timber industry, mechanical industry, and electricity.

A protocol was signed on cooperation in the field of exploring, producing, and developing fuel and marketing it between the Tunisian company for petroleum products and the Cameroonian national fuel company.

Financial Agreement Signed With CCCE

AB021800 Paris AFP in French 0802 GMT 2 Feb 86

[Text] Yaounde, 2 Feb (AFP) — The Cameroonian Government and the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation (CCCE — a French organization) signed two credit conventions on Friday amounting to a total of 13.25 billion CFA francs (Fr265 million) to the benefit of the National Electric Company (Sonel). This loan is to partially finance the construction of a new storage-dam and the construction of the Song-Loulou dam (in the southern part of the country) in order to meet the national demands in electricity between 1988 and 1992, according to the headquarters of the company. This new financial agreement brings to 39.3 billion CFA francs (Fr786 million) the total amount of the loans granted by the CCCE to Sonel since its creation in 1974, Michael Kina Tabong, the minister of mines and energy, disclosed at the signing ceremony.

CONGO

AFP: Paper Denounces French Stance on Chad Issue

AB311915 Paris AFP in French 1630 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 31 Jan (AFP) — France, supported by a certain number of African countries, is right now trying to impose on the Chadian people its backward vision for a solution to that country's conflict, *L'ETINCELLE*, the organ of the Revolutionary Movement of the Chadian People (MPR of Colonel Kamougue) said.

In the editorial of its January-February issue published in Brazzaville, the periodical said that this vision of the conflict was adopted by the Action and Coordination Committee and the Revolutionary and Democratic Council (CAC-CDR) and the Chadian Democratic Front (FDT) — two opposition parties not members of the Transitional National Union Government — and which recently signed reconciliation agreements in Libreville with the Ndjamena authorities.

Once analyzed, the Chadian policy of reconciliation shows a single and unique element: the search for easy solutions through arrangements at the level of top officials, and bargaining for ministerial positions, the columnist added.

According to *L'ETINCELLE*, all the successive governments which ruled Chad throughout the year did not "understand that the idea of reconciliation implies the search for a compromise, which would mean to bring about a national consensus."

BURKINA FASO

President Sankara Begins Visit to Paris

AB051355 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The president of the Republic arrived in Paris this morning to attend the conference on arbor and deforestation in Africa. Let me call our correspondent Serge Theophile Balima in Paris immediately: Captain Thomas Sankara, comrade president of the Republic, arrived in Paris shortly before 0800 and was welcomed at the airport by Alain Calmat, minister delegate for youths and sports representing his government. After the welcoming incident that marked President Sankara's first visit in 1983, the French authorities this time took all measures of political convenience in order to avoid the least misunderstanding.

The comrade president, who will participate in the international conference on arbor and deforestation in Africa and Europe, will be received at the Elysee this afternoon at 1530 French time by President Francois Mitterrand. This visit is being followed with keen interest by French officials in particular by Francois Mitterrand himself. After the audience, both Thomas Sankara and Fracois Mitterrand will leave the Elysee Palace for the Sorbonne University amphitheater where the French head of state will officially open the international conference nicknamed Silva at 1630.

CDR National Conference To Be Held in March

AB041653 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The first national conference of Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] will be held during the second half of March. This first major meeting will certainly be one of stocktaking, criticism, and self-criticism. In this regard, let us listen to the statement made this morning by the Comrade President of Burkina Faso Captain Thomas Sankara to the national press.

[Begin Sankara recording] Dear comrades, at last we are going to have the opportunity of holding our first national CDR conference. This conference has been requested and desired for a long time. It was planned several months ago but, unfortunately, circumstances did not allow us to respect the timetable for the meeting that was to enable us to express our views together in order to gather strength, in order to do our duty, and especially to map out possibilities for a future struggle, and future victories.

This national conference, which is to take place soon, will be attended by most Burkinabes, that is all who feel concerned in one way or the other by the revolution — in a direct manner because they are the actors, and in an indirect manner because they are all concerned by the revolution. Everyone will have the right to speak. This right to speak will be given to each of us through the existing structures, and ideas expressed will be examined at the national conference to enable us to find out the thoughts of the Burkinabe people about their revolution, that is what they think about the CDR. The theme of this national conference will be the strengthening and harmonization of revolutionary action within the CDR.

GHANA

Secretary for Interior Relieved of Post

AB060625 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The office of the chairman of the PNDC (Provisional National Defense Council) has announced that Colonel J.M. Ewa, retired, has been relieved of his post as secretary for interior.

$24 Million World Bank Loan Secured

AB051931 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Ghana has secured a loan of $24 million from the World Bank to finance part of the rehabilitation project of the Takoradi Port. In the interim, the bank has released $4.8 million for some equipment and consultancy services for the project which is expected to start next October. The director of port services, Group Captain Alex Awuvri made this known to newsmen in Takoradi today. He said that other financiers of the project are Japan, which will contribute $24 million, the Saudi Fund for Development, $14 million, and the European Economic Community, $7 million. Ghana is contributing $4.5 million. [passage omitted]

GUINEA

Construction of National Airport at Boffa Set

AB060910 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Boffa will soon be wide open to the outside world because a national airport will soon be constructed there. This airport will greatly contribute toward freeing from isolation the town which is rather difficult to reach due to the poor functioning of the ferry. Yet Boffa is a town with immense tourist, agricultural, and pastoral potentialities.

According to our prefectoral correspondent, Angelo (name indistinct), the airport site is located in the village of (?Tordoya), around 4 kilometers northwest of Boffa town. It should also be recalled that Prefect Captain Lansana Camara will spare no effort to accelerate the work.

IVORY COAST

Arrest Warrant for Former Mayor Withdrawn

AB051044 Paris AFP in French 0932 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 5 Feb (AFP) — The Ivorian Justice Department last 24 December ordered the withdrawal of the warrant issued almost a year ago for the arrest of Emmanuel Dioulo, former deputy and mayor of Abidjan and who had been accused of various financial malpractices, *AFRIQUE-ASIE* magazine has announced in its forthconing issue.

According to the weekly, this decision, which has not yet been made public officially, was taken by examining magistrate Ouatara Drissa following a "no-case submission" made by the attorney general, in favor of the former mayor.

Mr Dioulo, president of COGEXIM (a cocoa and coffee purchasing company) had been accused in particular of embezzling mortgaged goods, swindling, and paying fictitious dividends, following a conflict with the National Agricultural Development Bank.

The former mayor, aged about 50, left the Ivory Coast for Belgium and an international arrest warrant had been issued against him last March.

LIBERIA

'Economic Problems' Force Embassy in Sweden To Close

AB051617 Paris AFP in English 1523 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Monrovia, Feb 5 (AFP) — The West African state of Liberia is to close down its embassy in Stockholm next month due to "economic problems", Foreign Ministry sources said here today. The decision "will have no binding effect directly or indirectly" on the long-standing relaitons between the two countries, the sources added.

Blamo Returns From OAU Liberation Committee Meeting

AB032215 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that the minister of foreign affairs, Dr J. Bernard Blamo, who headed a 3-man delegation to the 45th session of the Organization of African Unity Liberation Committee recently held in Lagos, Nigeria, returned home over the weekend.

While in Nigeria, Foreign Minister Blamo delivered a statement to the ministerial session of the OAU Liberation Committee, held bilateral discussions with the Egyptian and Senegalese foreign ministers and the [words indistinct] as well as full talks with the OAU secretary general.

In a similar address to the Liberation Committee, Mr Blamo cautioned that the present economic difficulties confronting many African countries should not diminish their commitment and dedication to the total emancipation of the African continent from racist minority rule, noting that independent African states can never consider themselves truly free as long as one inch of African soil remains under racist colonial domination and control. He therefore called for a concerted action by Africa and the international forces against South Africa and commended the heroic freedom fighters of South Africa and Namibia.

Earlier, in a brief remark at the reception tendered in his honor by the Liberian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Dueh Chieh, and attended by the Liberian community in Nigeria and the diplomatic corps, Mr Blamo enumerated Liberia's African foreign policy, which, he said, has been always geared toward the achievement of a fundemental approach to African unity and the total liberation of the African continent from racist minority rule in strict pursuit of which policy Dr Blamo said Liberia and Ethiopia in the 1960's challenged South Africa's continued illegal mandate over Namibia by taking that regime to the International Court of Justice at the cost of over $12 million that was borne by the Liberian Government. Similarly, Liberia made a donation of over $600,000 to the OAU Liberation Fund in 1976.

Reiterating Liberia's firm commitment to the African liberation struggle, Dr Blamo urged all OAU member states not to relent until final victory is achieved in Namibia and South Africa and said Liberia will continue to extend a hand of friendship to all peace-loving nations and will redouble its efforts with the [words indistinct] towards international peace and a just and more equitable world order.

Payment of Salaries to Government Employees Ordered

AB050830 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] It has been announced that the Government of Liberia is suspending the disbursement of funds to all government constructions and other such activities until the payment of salary arrears to its employees is addressed. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Finance has been directed to giver priority to the payment of government employees' salaries until otherwise ordered. The national television, quoting an Executive Mansion release, last night said President Doe said the action was being taken to ensure that those employed with government will be able to receive their salaries since they have some obligations to meet. The national television also reported that the [words indistinct] certificates that were issued to business houses and contractors have been (?revoked).

Chief Justice: Decrees Stay in Force Pending Review

AB051020 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] All decrees promulgated by the dissolved People's Redemption Council [PRC] and the Interim National Assembly [INA] and not yet amended, remain in force as laws of the country, Chief Justice James Nagbe said in Monrovia yesterday. Chief Justice Nagbe told reporters at his Temple of Justice chambers that even though the Constitution is the highest organ of law in the country, the decrees shall remain as laws until they are challenged at the proper time and decided upon by the Supreme Court in accordance with the Constitution. He stated, however, that with the coming into force of the Constitution, the decrees that were promulgated for the safe conduct of the nation cannot automatically be repealed without determining to what extent they conflict with the Constitution. Chief Justice Nagbe added that it was necessary to bring to the attention of the

Supreme Court any decree thought to be otherwise for a decision that will be guarded by the Constitution.

MALI

Communique Issued on Visit by Tunisia's Mzali

AB051335 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 4 Feb 86

["Final Communique" issued in Bamako following Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali's visit to Mali on 4 February — read by Mahmoud Mestiri, Tunisian secretary of state for foreign affairs — recorded]

[Text] At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Mali, his excellency Mohamed Mzali, prime minister of the Republic of Tunisia, paid an official visit to Mali on 4 February 1986. During his visit, Prime Minister Mzali was received in audience by General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic, to whom he delivered a message of friendship and brotherhood from his excellency Habib Bourguiba.

Their talks, which took place in a fraternal atmosphere, enabled the two delegations to note the similarity of their viewpoints concerning developments on the African continent, in the Arab world as well as on the international scene, and on the other hand on the various aspects of bilateral economic relations and the economic situation in Africa and in the world.

On bilateral relations, the two sides exchanged views on issues concerning the improvement of cooperation established between them. To this end, the two sides undertook to make sustained efforts to strengthen this cooperation in various fields, notably within the Tunisian-Malian Joint Cooperation Commission, which held its constitutive meeting in December 1979 in Bamako.

In the field of transport, the two sides decided to explore existing means and to take measures to strengthen cooperation in this field.

Concerning training, the two sides decided to begin new chapters in the cooperation allowing for the exchange of programs of teachers' training and for technical assistance.

On the difficult economic situation of Africa, the two sides expressed their deep concern over the grave deterioration of the economies of Third World countries in general, and in particular of African countries that have already been afflicted by the combined effects of the world economic recession, drought, and deterioration of the world economic order.

Meanwhile, the two sides expressed satisfaction with the very encouraging results achieved by the 21st summit conference of OAU heads of state and government devoted essentially to the economic problems of the continent. They reiterated their call for efforts toward the implementation of the major decisions made at that summit.

Meanwhile, the two sides expressed satisfaction over the decision to convene an extraordinary session of the United Nations General Assembly to discuss the economic situation of Africa and expressed their determination to work toward the success of the deliberations during that meeting, which is important for the future of African countries.

Also, the two sides reiterated their support for moves aimed at convening an international conference on Africa's external debts. Such a conference constitutes an important stage in the search for satisfactory solutions to the problems of Africa's development. The two sides expressed their strong belief that a mutually beneficial, close cooperation between industrial and Third World countries must absolutely be based on the establishment of a new world order that will be more just and equitable.

Examining the situation in southern Africa, the two sides once again pledged their total support for the oppressed people of South Africa in their struggle against the odious system of apartheid and for the advent of a truly democratic society in that country. The two sides also denounced the setting up of an interim puppet government and any other dilatory maneuver by Pretoria designed to delay Namibia's independence process.

In this regard, the two sides reaffirmed the inalienable right of the Namibian people to independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their only authentic representative. They also demanded the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

Meanwhile, the two sides condemned the alliance between the racist South African regime and the Zionist entity, an alliance which is being strengthened in the fields of economic and military cooperation as well as in nuclear (?energy) cooperation, thus threatening peace and security in neighboring countries in particular, and African countries in general.

Concerning the situation in Western Sahara, the two sides expressed the hope that a just and lasting solution will be found to this conflict in conformity to the pertinent resolutions of the OAU and the United Nations in order to hold a self-determination referendum for the Saharan people.

Concerning the situation in Chad, the two sides endorsed the efforts being made by the OAU with the view of finding a just solution to this fratricidal conflict within the African context and without any foreign interference.

Concerning the Middle East situation, the two sides strongly condemned the Zionist aggression perpetrated against Tunisia and the PLO headquarters in Tunis. They considered that this barbaric and unjustified act is a flagrant violation of the elementary principles of international laws and of the UN Charter. They demanded appropriate sanctions against the Zionist entity, which is truly resorting to state terrorism. In this regard, the two sides reaffirmed their unflinching support to the martyr Palestinian people, who have been fighting heroically under their only legitimate representative, the PLO, to assert their right to a fatherland on the soil of their ancestors. Mali reiterated its total solidarity to the brotherly people of Tunisia in the trial it went through as a result of the criminal raid and appealed to all states to unanimously condemn the terrorist act.

The two sides expressed support for the Lebanese people and paid tribute to them for the sacrifices made in order to stop the Zionist designs aimed at jeopardizing their territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

Concerning the Iran-Iraq war, the two sides, aware of the dangers of a continued fratricidal conflicts represents to the Islamic nation, renewed their urgent appeal to the two countries to finally put an end to their 6-year-long war.

Concerning Afro-Arab cooperation, the two sides noted that it has not reached the expected level and urged the two sides to work further on the basis of Islamic solidarity and fraternity.

They expressed great concern over mounting tension in the world. The two sides stressed their lasting attachment to the Nonaligned Movement, which is a forum for all peace-and just-loving countries to strengthen their national independence and thus contribute greatly to the world peace and security, as well as to the establishment of a more just and more equitable world economic order.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the quality of their talks as well as with the results achieved during this visit, which is drawing to its end, and felt this was indicative of the firm determination of the two friendly countries to increase and further strengthen the cooperation existing between Tunisia and Mali. In this regard, the Tunisian delegation expressed great satisfaction over the decisions made by the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement, ANAD, and certain African countries with the view to restoring peace between the two sister countries of Mali and Burkina Faso, which must consolidate their relations on the basis of their common struggle against drought and the desert encroachment in order to raise the living standards for their peoples.

His excellency, Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister, expressed his deep gratitude to the UDPM secretary general and president of the Republic, and to the Malian government for the warm brotherly welcome and the truly African hospitality he and his delegation enjoyed during their stay in Mali.

It was further decided that the next joint commission will hold its session in Tunis during the first semester of this year.

Meanwhile, the Tunisian prime minister handed to the UDPM secretary general and president of the Republic an invitation sent by Tunisian President His Excellency Habib Bourguiba to pay an official visit to Tunisia. The date of the visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

[Signed] For the Republic of Tunisia, Mohamed Mzali, prime minister; for the Republic of Mali, General Baba Diarra, UDPM deputy secretary general and minister of state for planning.

Assembly Official To Attend Cuban Party Congress

AB051622 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The first vice chairman of the National Assembly, Mr Moussa Toure, left Bamako on Sunday for Havana, Cuba, at the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party. Mr Toure is leading a delegation of the Democratic Union of Malian People. In the Cuban capital, the Malian delegation will take part in the third session of the Cuban Communist Party's congress.

NIGER

Kaduna Governor Arrives in Zinder for Visit

AB042143 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The governor of Kaduna State, Major Abubakar Umar, arrived in Zinder this afternoon at the head of a large delegation for a 3-day working visit to the region. Maman Oumarou reports from Zinder.

[Begin Oumarou recording] Maj Abubakar Umar was welcomed at the Niger-Nigeria border by the prefect of the Zinder Region, Lieutenant Colonel Moumouni Djarmakoye Adamou, who was accompanied on the occasion by the commander of the regional gendarmerie unit, the subprefects of Matamey and Magaria, and many regional officials. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Ambassador Says PRC Desires To Increase Trade

AB041641 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] China has indicated her desire to increase trade between her and Nigeria. The Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Wang Yusheng, said in Lagos last night that there were broad prospects to expand economic and technical cooperation to promote South-South dialogue. Mr Wang was speaking at a dinner party to mark the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The ambassador also stressed the need for both nations to continue to work together in the fight against apartheid and support for liberations movements in southern Africa.

Panel Set Up To Investigate Institution Closure

AB051934 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] A 5-man panel has been set up by the Calabar Polytechnic to examine the causes of the student protests that left to the closure of the institution last week. Members of the panel, which is headed by Chief B.E. Otekobo, were drawn from the polytechnic governing council. The panel will assess the damage done to school and state property, identify culprits, and recommend appropriate disciplinary action. The panel is expected to submit its report within 3 weeks.

ANGOLA

Luanda Comments on Reagan's State of Union Address

MB051500 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] In his State of the Union address yesterday afternoon, U.S. President Ronald Reagan reaffirmed his support for the counterrevolutionaries who carry out actions against Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Angola, and Kampuchea. Resorting to his contradictory phraseology, Ronald Reagan said that the White House would increase its support for what he called freedom fighters, thus confirming the U.S. readiness to foment regional conflicts and (?deny) people their basic rights to independence and sovereignty. Ronald Reagan forgot in his speech to refer to the critical situations and the violation of fundamental human rights in Chile, El Salvador, Haiti, Philippines, and particularly in South Africa, where even during the 20th century, the black people are subjected to the most hideous policy of racial segregation. This policy survives thanks to the so-called constructive engagement by the White House.

The U.S. President's statement is based on a notoriously calculated act aimed at fomenting hostility and mistrust to bring about confrontation and war. This is clearly proved by the recent visit to the United States by puppet Savimbi who, going on his knees before his Pretoria and Washington bosses, tries to obtain more direct assistance in order to topple the legitimate Government of the People's Republic of Angola.

With regard to the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative project, mostly known as star wars, in addition to saying that he concurred with the Soviet Government regarding an agreement that may truly reduce nuclear weapons, Ronald Reagan underlined that the Strategic Defense Initiative project constitutes a U.S. historical challenge. However, Ronald Reagan said that the Geneva summit and the future visit by the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to the United States would lead to the improvement of relations between the two powers.

Dos Santos Receives Swedish Energy Minister

MB011300 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Excerpts] At Futungo de Belas in Luanda today, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, received Birgitta Dahl, the Swedish energy minister. During the audience, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos exchanged views with the Swedish official on issues of bilateral interest. Birgitta Dhal is on the last day of her official visit to the People's Republic of Angola.

Yesterday, Birgitta Dahl held a press conference during which she reaffirmed her government's interest in cooperating with Angola in various fields. During the press conference, Birgitta Dahl also reaffirmed the solidairty of her people with our struggle, pointing out that the Nordic countries would do everything possible to isolate South Africa. The Swedish official added that the aim is to put an end to the system of apartheid in South Africa and to achieve independence for Namibia. Today, Birgitta Dahl is expected to meet the Swedish community living in Angola before leaving for home.

Military Operations Against UNITA Forces Detailed

80 UNITA Dead

MB311744 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The Angolan defense and security forces stationed in the Lunda Norte Province killed 80 UNITA armed bandits during military operations carried out in the past few days in the Cuilo region. Among the bandits killed was a major named (Xinga).

In other operations, the combatants of the 10th military region destroyed the so-called (Lalingue) base where they captured large quantities of war materiel. This Angolan National Army operation led to the release of 57 people that the bandits had kidnapped. Some young children were among the civilians kidnapped by the UNITA criminals.

Another 83 'Annihilated'

MB021119 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 1 Feb 86

[Text] ANGOP reported today, quoting authorized military sources, that another 83 UNITA bandits were annihilated in the 4th military region during offensive operations carried out by the FAPLA forces over the last few days. A further three criminals were captured and two UNITA elements surrendered to authorities in Cazombo municipality in Moxico Province.

In the 10th military region, the national army launched new offensive actions against the bandits resulting in the death of 80 criminals, among whom was one who had received the rank of major from the racist South African regime.

In Huila Province between Wednesday and Friday, the FAPLA soldiers persecuted the armed bandits who attacked Chicomba hamlet, in Caconda municipality. They killed two armed bandits and destroyed the so-called (Cavungo) base. A total of 11 people men, women, and children — who had been abducted by the bandits and were forced by the bandits to live in the jungle were freed by the FAPLA forces, who captured a large quantity of war materiel.

33 Killed During 'Massacre'

MB031801 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] UNITA puppets have once again committed a criminal act massacring people in the municipality of Balombo, Benguela Province. Our collegues from the Benguela regional station give further details:

[Unidentified reporter] On 1 February, the notorious 9th [as heard] UNITA murderers battlion attacked for the second time the headquarters of Balombo municipality in order to destroy, sabotage, and create sorrow and grief. However, in both attacks, the response by our forces and people (?demonstrated) our firm resolve to fight the enemies of our revolution. A total of 33 dead, including a lieutenant idenfitied as (Farias Samujelo), a second lieutenant, and two sergeants was the provisional total of confirmed enemy casualties. Our forces also captured eight rifles, two machineguns, and a considerable amount of dynamite, grenades, and ammunities.

UNITA Reports Operations Against Government Forces

2 MIG's Downed, 23 Cubans Killed

MB060919 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0800 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] The Angolan rebel movement, UNITA, claims that its forces have killed more than 120 government forces at the weekend. The rebels also claim that they have killed 23 Cuban soldiers and shot down two Soviet-built MIG jets. They say the fighting between UNITA forces and troops loyal to Angolan President Dos Santos took place in the provinces of Moxico, Benguela, and Bie.

80 Soldiers Captured, 25 Killed

MB050832 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 5 Feb (KUP) — At least 80 FAPLA soldiers were captured and another 25 killed, among them communal leader Antunes Chiuta and four officers, during a series of attacks carried out by UNITA the first 2 weeks of January. This was revealed in a communique issued by the office of the Chief of General Staff of the UNITA armed forces.

The communique also stressed that 40 MPLA soldiers were wounded when a locomotive was destroyed. A total of 3 train cars were destroyed in 3 other attacks, resulting in the destruction of 36 vehicles, 5 motorcycles, and 30,000 rounds of ammunition.

Among the war materiel that was captured were 352 weapons of various types, 40,600 rounds of ammunition, 4 Motorola walkie-talkies, 119 mines, and 1 radio transmitter.

UNITA admits having lost one soldier and six others were wounded. The attacks were carried out on the northern and eastern fronts, in the Luau operations sector, in Bie, and on the road between Luassinga and Kuatir in the liberated territory.

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Reports Meeting With South African Officials

MB051121 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1110 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Delegations representing Botswana and South Africa consisting of senior officials and representatives of the security services met in Pretoria yesterday. A statement from the department of external affairs says the meeting, which took place in a spirit of frankness, explored the security situation between the two countries. The statement says it was agreed that the delegations would meet again in a fortnight's time.

British Officers Involved in Army Training

MB041816 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The commander of the Botswana Defense Force [BDF] has confirmed that a small group of British army personnel is engaged in a joint training exercise with members of the BDF in Botswana. He has indicated that the training exercise is a natural continuation of a long-standing training relationship between the British Army and the BDF in the United Kingdom and in Botswana. The specific details of the exercise have not been given as it is not the policy to release such information.

Foreign Minister Leaves For EEC-Frontline Meeting

MB312013 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1111 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Excerpt] The minister of foreign affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, left Gaborone yesterday for Lusaka where she will represent Botswana at a meeting between the Frontline States and the EEC. The meeting is scheduled for 3 and 4 February. The meeting is the third between the two organizations.

LESOTHO

King Grants Amnesty for All 'Political' Offences

MB061216 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II, acting in accordance with the advice of the Military Council of Lesotho, has granted general amnesty to all citizens of Lesotho, both inside and outside Lesotho, who have been convicted and sentenced or have gone into exile due to offences of a political nature committed before the coming into operation of Order No 2 of of 1986, which is now in force.

Order No 2 of 1986, cited as a general amnesty order, grants general amnesty to any citizen of Lesotho who, being inside Lesotho, has been convicted and sentenced for an offense of a political nature, or is liable to criminal prosecution for acts which constitute offenses of a political nature, or, in the case of a citizen of Lesotho living outside Lesotho, who is liable to criminal prosecution for offenses of a political nature, or living outside Lesotho for fear of political persucution and desires to return to Lesotho.

According to this order, the amnesty is granted on condition that a person to whom it applies complies with the laws of Lesotho and surrenders any arms in his possession to the nearest police station or to his chief or the nearest Lesotho paramilitary force base.

The order stipulates that notwithstanding any other law, the decision of his majesty to grant amnesty under the same order is conclusive and binding upon all persons, and no criminal prosecution may be undertaken by any person or authority for offenses or crimes committed before the coming into operation of this order.

The effect of the general amnesty under this order is to secure all persons to whom it is granted against all leagal responsibility from all criminal consequences. [Sentence as heard] No proceedings, whether civil or criminal, shall be brought in any court of law against the government, in respect of proceedings arising out of offenses to which his majesty's grant of amnesty relates. By issue of this order, the Amnesty Act No 7 of 1980 is repealed.

Lekhanya Says 'Genuine Refugees' Will Be Accepted

MB051335 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council of Lesotho, His Excellency Major General J.M. Lekhanya, has said that Lesotho will continue to accept genuine refugees from South Africa with the help of the international community because asylum to refugees is granted purely for humanitarian reasons. Receiving the United Nations observer mission sent by the United Nations secretary general in Maseru this morning, Maj Gen Lekhanya noted that if it is found that the security of the refugees in question and the lesser security of Lesotho are threatened, such refugees will be found second countries of asylum.

He said that the new administration was committed to the solution of this country's problems with South Africa through negotiation, even though South Africa's apartheid system remains totally unacceptable. He added that no piece of paper can guarantee good-neighborly relations, but this can be (?sought) only when neighbors talk to each other. Maj Gen Lekhanya told the United Nations mission, led by Mr (R.L. Randall), a former Swedish Army colonel, that Lesotho wants to set politics aside and set about the task of developing their country.

He said his government is also determined to forge closer links with other members of the SADCC and in this regard he would like to persue an air corridor to facilitate free and unhindered movement of people and goods between ourselves. The United Nations observer mission, which includes Mr (Jenking Ngobi), a political advosor from Uganda, was received by Maj Gen Lekhanya in the presence of the full Military Council of Lesotho.

Jonathan's Secretary, Youth League Leaders Detained

MB060604 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Mr (Rentomeng Mathethe), the former senior private secretary of the deposed Lesotho prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, has been detained in Maseru with most leaders of the former ruling Basotho National Party's Youth (?wing) and our correspondent in Maseru reports that large quantities of arms have been found in their homes.

DPRK Workers Reportedly Left Due to Lack of Funds

MB061301 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] After consultation between the Government of Lesotho and the Embassy of the DPRK, it was agreed that the certain Korean technicians who have been employed in the reconstruction of the Lesotho national stadium and six agricultural technicians should return to Korea.

The Koreans left Maseru on Sunday, 2 February, back to their home. The Koreans who were paid an agreed monthly stipend by the Lesotho Government, could no longer be kept, as funds from which they were paid had been depleted.

The reports that they were expelled by the Lesotho Government without giving reasons are not correct. Meanwhile, the Embassy of the DPRK remains open in Lesotho.

The Korean technicians came to Lesotho in July 1985, under the terms of the economic and technical cooperation agreement which was signed between the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Government of the DPRK on 12 August 1983.

The first phase of the reconstruction of the Lesotho national stadium cost 3 million maluti, of which the Lesotho Government has already spent 1 million maluto for the work done up to now. Another 2 million maluti is still needed for the completion of the work. Work on the first phase of this project was expected to be completed in September this year. The second phase of the project will cost about 8 million maluti.

Commentary Denies RSA Involvement in Recent Coup

MB051748 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Station commentary: "The Change of Government in Lesotho"]

[Text] There are some insidious allegations about the reasons of the change of government in Lesotho. As was to be expected, there are accusations that there is in fact no change, but a charade. On the other hand, there are frivolous statements that a certain foreign power instigated the change of government in Lesotho.

It is necessary to deal with these allegations, even if only to display their lack of foundation. To start with, there is a change of government in Lesotho, demonstrated in legal form by Order No 1 of 1986, which clearly spells out the legislative and executive framework of government. There is a change, too, in the approach to political habits and the conduct of political parties.

True enough, there is no change about loss of life motivated by political recrimination. But there is a change of style of government, composition of leadership, and perspective of the future of the country.

As for the innuendos of South African involvement in the change of government, this needs to be stated quite categorically: the allegation is absurd and devoid of any substance. No one with any sense of realism can deny that South Africa has a watching brief of events and developments in Lesotho. Equally, Lesotho maintains a watching brief on developments in South Africa.

There have been accusations of interference in each other's internal affairs, accompanied by strong denials on both sides. What is important, however, is to recognize that the change of government in Lesotho had nothing to do with Pretoria.

The politicians of Lesotho themselves precipitated the change. The catalogue of their actions is too long. The antipathy and bitterness that they created was sufficient cause for demands for change.

No political leader anywhere should claim the righteousness of intolerance, nor should any man or woman seek the right of control over the lives of their fellow human beings. A regrettable situation was developing in Lesotho and needed to be redressed. That situation is still continuing.

Basothos should seriously ask themselves whether political hatred is really in the interests of themselves and future generations of Basotho. It is that hatred that caused a change of government, not South Africa or any foreign power.

The challenge now is to all Basotho to replace hatred with reconcilliation and a spirit of customary and traditional oneness.

Civil Servants Association Pledges Loyalty

MB041220 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The Lesotho Civil Servants Association has commended the new Military Council of Lesotho on its takeover of power recently with His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II as head of state and on behalf of all civil servants has pledged total support, (?appreciation), and loyalty to the new government.

In a press release issued today, the secretary general of the Civil Servants Association, Mr (Issy Morena) says all civil servants in the 10 districts of the country will contribute fully to the pursuit of truth and national reconciliation, which has been embarked on by the Military Council of Lesotho. The association further expressed a deep gratitude to the chairman of the Military Council of Lesotho, His Excellency Major General J.M. Lekhanya, for protecting civil servants and allowing them to continue with their normal [word indistinct].

The Lesotho Civil Servants Association is an association bringing together all civil servants in the country to represent them so they can better address themselves to their problems and difficulties. Over a wider stipulation that began about a year ago, an interim national executive committee was recently elected on the 9th of January by delgates from all the 10 districts of Lesotho.

MOZAMBIQUE

North Koreans Expelled from Lesotho Arrive in Maputo

MB042007 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] A total of 20 technicians from North Korea who have been expelled from Lesotho arrived in Mozambique this morning. A spokesman for the Korean Embassy in Maputo says a chartered plane had flown the technicians from Maseru to Maputo. The spokesman says the technicians were in Lesotho on (?1- and-2-year) contract in agriculture and in the building industries. The technicians are now going to return home. It is not known yet why the new Government of Lesotho expelled the Koreans. North Korea and Lesotho, under the government of ousted Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan, established full diplomatic relations in 1983.

Powerlines Sabotaged; Freight Train Attacked

MB051836 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The powerlines carrying electricity to Maputo city from South Africa have been sabotaged very close to the South African border. The lines were sabotaged last night at 1900 some 4 km from South Africa's border with Mozambique. A spokesman for the Mozambican Electricity Board said work is underway to repair the lines. It is assuemd that the saboteurs crossed from South Africa, which has been recruiting, supplying, and aiding the MNR terrorists.

A goods train traveling from Swaziland to the Mozambican port of Maputo came under fire this morning. The train was attacked as it was crossing the Swazi border into Mozambique. A source in the Mozambican railways said half of the train was in Swaziland while the other half was in Mozambique when the attack took place. An apprentice driver was killed and the train fireman was slightly injured. The port of Maputo is vital for imports and exports of Swaziland, one of the nine countries grouped in the regional cooperation alliance, SADCC. One of SADCC's objectives is to reduce dependence from South Africa, mainly transport routes.

Swedish Development Aid Minister Visits

MB030707 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Swedish Minister of Development Aid Lena Hjelm-Wallen has been in Mozambique since yesterday monring at the invitation of the Mozambican authorities. During her stay in our country, Lena Hjelm-Wallen will discuss issues related to bilateral cooperation with the Mozambican authorities.

The minister has already been in Manica, where she toured the Manica Forestry Industries, Ifloma, and the seed factory. While in Manica, she was received by the Mozamican minister of agriculture who suggested that a commercially viable solution for the problems being experienced by Ifloma should be discussed during the talks. Ifloma has received Swedish financial assistance of some $18 million. Its present output is low, that is, 30 percent of its existing capacity, due to problems in the acquisition of fuels and chemicals for wood processing.

While in Maputo the Swedish minister will meet the minister in the presidency for economic affairs and one of the deputy ministers of defense. After her arrival in Maputo yesterday afternoon, Lena Hjelm-Wallen told journalists that that question of security is one of the points of the agenda for her meeting with the Mozambican Government. She further stated that our country is one of Sweden's main partners in southern Africa. The Swedish delegation, which is led by Minister of Development Aid Lena Hjelm-Wallen, attended the consultative council of the SADCC in Harare and is now making a tour of southern African countries, namely, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Zambia.

NAMIBIA

Security Force Kills 33 SWAPO 'Insurgents'

MB042058 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1941 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 4, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia have shot and killed 33 SWAPO insurgents to date this year, the SWA Territory Force [SWATF] said in Windhoek tonight.

A total of eight insurgents were shot and killed in the last seven days, the SWATF added in a statement.

It said that two civilians were killed and four injured on Saturday night in a landmine blast about 10 km on the SWA/Namibian side of the border with Angola in the first landmine incident of this year that involved civilians.

The dead were Mr Johannes Shihana and Mr Timoteus Johannes.

Explosive experts reported the landmine had been of Soviet origin, the SWATF said.

The statement also said that several arms caches were found and destroyed by the security forces this year, including 60 kists of 88 mm rockets, 28 chests of RPG-7 missiles with boosters, and 19 boxes of Tokarev rounds of ammunition. Large quantities of arms and ammunition were seized by the security forces, the statement said.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Speaks to Reporters on Current Issues

African Support for UNITA

MB061209 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text]South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha has commented on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. Earlier, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, in defending U.S. support for UNITA rebels, said Cuban and Soviet forces must be withdrawn from Angola.

Mr Botha said it is difficult for President dos Santos to consider partial Cuban withdrawal in circumstances where UNITA is strongest and is receiving support from other countries. He says America is not alone in its support for UNITA.

[Begin Botha recording] The United States is not the only country that is coming out in support of UNITA. I know for a fact that UNITA has strong support in a number of African countries, in quite a number of important African countries because some of these African countries have sent signals to me on occasion to say for heaven's sake, do something before the Russians take over the whole western coast of Africa. The fact of the matter is, there is a stalemate. South Africa says South Africa's interests lie mainly in the stability of Namibia. [End recording]

Black Presidents Possible

MB061220 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1100 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] South Africa's Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha says the country could be ruled by black presidents in the future provided agreement is reached on the protection of the rights of whites and other minorities.

Addressing foreign correspondents in Cape Town, Mr Botha said that if blacks shared in the power of South Africa then black presidents in the future appear to be an inevitable result.

No Link With Lesotho Coup

MB061314 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Pik Botha has strongly denied that South Africa was involved in teh Lesotho coup. Former Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan was toppled from government by the military under General Justin Lekhanya about 3 weeks ago.

[Begin Botha recording] I am not aware of any hand that we had in the event. I was dependent at times on news that I got from press friends, who happened to be there. There were certain press representatives of certain South African papers — English-language papers. They gave me reports, in an indirect way, of what was going on there, and with all respect, the truth in this can be checked out. I do not know whether the foreign missions stationed there were from day to day aware exactly of what was going on. [End recording]

Mandela Release Still Possible

MB061431 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpts] South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha has said the country will ultimately have a black president. Speaking to reporters in Cape Town, Mr Botha has predicted that if all the different racial groups can agree on a power-sharing formula, a black president will be inevitable.

Minister Botha also told reporters that the release of jailed ANC Leader Nelson Mandela would be possible if two Soviet dissidents were set free, along with the captured South African officer in Angola. He said it has now become clear that the release of Russian Anatoliy ShchoranSkiy was imminent, and said he has not ruled out the possibility of reaching an agreement with the Angolan government about releasing the captured soldiers.

Nel Interviewed on Advertising Campaign

MB050810 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Interview with Deputy Information Minister Louis Nel in Johannesburg by Andre le Roux on the "Network" program; introduced by Kolie van Koller — live]

[Text] [Van Koller] The government's advertising campaign on its reform initiatives, which appeared in the major newspapers yesterday, was a point of discussion in the no-confidence debates in Parliament today. Our political representative, Andre le Roux, confronted the deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, with some of the most important questions a short while ago.

[Le Roux] Mr Nel, the government has begun a new advertising campaign to promote its latest reform initiatives. Why?

[Nel] The nation has a right to know exactly what the government is planning, and the government has a duty to inform the nation, to inform the nation effectively, so that as many people as possible know exactly in which direction the government is going. We are of the opinion that we are living in exceptional times. We are living in a time where changes are taking place on a daily basis. We are living in a time when the whole nation accepts that changes must come. There isn't one political party in this country that wants the present status quo to continue in South Africa, and the government must put its views across very clearly because at the end of the day it is the government that has to carry out a policy, and, in the process, the lives of every citizen, black and white, will be radically changed.

[Le Roux] Why wasn't the same sort of action not initiated, for instance, last year with the 15 August speech, the Rubicon speech?

[Nel] The president's initiatives spelled out at that time should have been propogated — the media should have done that. We cannot just rely on the media to propogate the president's initiatives and government policy. We must take our own steps in this regard. It is done by all governments in the world and it has also been done by this government in the past. In the past it was not done in this manner. Previously we ...

[Le Roux, interrupting] What is the new way, minister? Why the new way now?

[Nel] This means that in the past brochures were compiled, films were made, and so forth, but this way — we have decided on this way because we feel it is the most effective way under the present circumstances.

[Le Roux] Who pays for the advertisements?

[Nel] The Bureau of Information pays for it from its budget.

[Le Roux] Dr Treurnicht said earlier today in Parliament that he was against the state paying for National Party [NP] advertisements. Your reaction to that?

[Nel] The NP is not involved because it is not NP policy that is being propogated; it the standpoint of the government of the day. Political parties as such, except when those political parties are in power, do not touch the ordinary person in his daily dealings, but when a political party becomes the government of the day, duly elected, then the government's policy becomes the most important aspect in the lives of all, and the citizens of South Africa, white and brown and black and Asian, have a right to know, and we have a duty to inform, and we are going ahead in the most effective way possible. At this stage we think that this way is the most effective one.

[Le Roux] Coming back to the difference in the government's approach with the advertising campaign, it was said that this advertisement campaign indicates a new determination by government. Is that how you see it?

[Nel] I think it is very important to realize that the seriousness and determination of government to carry out its political program has not been fully realized in the past, and people have not really realized that the government is serious in every aspect. It is our intention — because we are serious about building a new peaceful South Africa on the basis of the principles spelt out by the state president — to inform the nation in the most dramatic and most effective way. We live in a time where serious onslaughts are carried out against South Africa. We live in times where many people feel, from time to time, that more far-reaching and further unrest can occur in South Africa. We live in times which are important for all South Africa's peoples, white and brown and black and Asian, to realize that the government is on the path to just reform which will ensure a safe future for the country.

[Le Roux] You have begun with the campaign this weekend. What is the pipeline for the rest of the week and the rest of the session?

[Nel] We have only taken a decision with regard to an advertisement campaign for the rest of the week. Advertisements will be appearing in certain newspapers. No decision has been taken on what we are going to do after this.

[Le Roux] Internationally?

[Nel] Internationally, you must understand that South Africa's image is influenced to a great degree by reaction from people inside the country, and if we can succeed in getting favorable reaction from the different race groups inside South Africa then it would be extended to the international level. But fighting the international propaganda onslaught, as such, is not the task of the Bureau of Information but the task of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

PFP's Suzman Calls for Moratorium on Pass Arrests

MB051709 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Helen Suzman has called for a moratorium on pass offense arrests until the abolition of the pass laws. The PFP [Progressive Federal Party] member of Parliament's appeal came during the no confidence debate. Mrs Suzman has asked whether the promised scrapping of the laws by 1 July and the substitution of new influx control meauseres will release blacks from their immobility.

Mrs Suzman also questioned whether there could be equal opportunity in South Africa while the Land Act and the Group Areas Act remained on the statute books.

PFP MP on Government's 'Economic Mismanagement'

MB042104 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1415 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Feb 4, SAPA — The government's "mismanagement" of the economy had caused irreparable damage for which future generations would continue to pay, the PFP spokesman on finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, said today.

Speaking during the no confidence debate, he said peaceful, political reform had been completely undermined by economic failure.

"Whatever blame is attached to the drought or to external factors over which no one here had control, the reality is that many, if not most, of the economic ills of South Africa have been caused by a combination of economic mismanagement and the application of philosophies inappropriate to the South African condition."

Unrest had thrived and reform efforts had been sabotaged because of the government's economic mismanagement.

Mr Schwarz said the soars caused by this "irreparable damage" to the economy would never heal.

"Future generations will have to continue to pay the price for this economic mismanagement by the government," he said.

HNP Leader Comments on Proposed Measures

MB050651 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The leader of the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP], Mr Jaap Marais, says the proposed statutory council is the first step towards bringing blacks into Parliament.

Addressing a public meeting at Parow, Mr Marais said the government's policy of powersharing meant the power of whites is decreasing in social and economic areas. He said the abolotion of the Mixed Marriages Act would mean the end of the Group Areas Act.

Colored MP's Refused Service in White Dining Room

MB041841 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The speaker of Parliament, Mr Johan Greef, says he will not condone conduct such as that of the past few days, when members of the House of Representatives in opposition to parliamentary rules, insisted on service in facilities reserved exclusively for members of the House of Assembly. Mr Greef pointed out that the side dining area adjacent to the main dining room on the House of Assembly side of Parliament was meant for the private use of members of the House of Assembly. Similar private dining areas for colored and Indian members of Parliament existed in the Market building on the opposite side of Parliament Street.

Mr Greef called on the members concerned in the House of Representatives to direct their objection against the system through the proper channels.

The leader of the opposition in the House of Representatives, Mr Dennis de la Cruz, expressed disappointment this afternoon that member of the house had been refused service for the second time in the dining room of the House of Assembly. He said all parliamentary facilities should be open to all members.

Education Minister on Recognition of Ethnic Groups

MB041915 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The minister of national education, Mr F.W. de Klerk, says the recognition of the existence of different groups in South Africa is not, per se, discriminatory, and is necessary to safeguard group interests.

Speaking during the no-confidence debate in the House of Assembly, Mr de Klerk said certain fundamental matters were linked to group security, such as own residential areas, schools, and community life.

Mr de Klerk said each group should have its own power base, to maintain its own character and rights.

Further Talks With Botswana on Security Planned

MB051541 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Further talks on security measures along South Africa's border with Botswana are to be held between the two countries in 2 weeks. A brief statement after today's discussions in Pretoria said the security situation had come under close scrutiny, and that another meeting would be held.

Today's meeting was attended by senior officials of the departments of foreign affairs and security services of the two countries. The leader of the South African delegation, Mr Neil van Heerden, told our Pretoria staff that specific incidents of terrorism and landmine explosions in South African territory had been discussed.

East London Consumer Boycott To Resume 3 March

MB051938 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The recent consumer boycott in East London is to be resumed. Frans Kruger has more.

[Kruger] A meeting of community organizers had decided to resume the boycott of white shops from 3 March. UDF [United Democratic Front] sources said the decision had been taken because demands raised during last year's boycott had not been met. These ranged from the legalization of hawking to an end to retrenchment. Last year, a highly effective consumer boycott started in August, and lasted 4 months, causing the closure of several shops. After its end, negotiations between the consumer boycott committee and local civic and business leaders started, but soon broke down. Mzwandile Mampunye, chairman of the boycott committee, said the committee had then been dissolved. The responsibility for the new boycott was being carried by community organizations collectively.

'Amicable' Terms To Stop Zulu-Pondo Fighting Reached

MB051810 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1750 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Umtata, Feb 5, SAPA — Amicable terms to stop the Zulu-Pondo faction fights in Natal had been reached between Transkei, KwaZulu, and South African Government delegations in Durban last Friday, Transkei's minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Mtutuzeli Lujabe, said today.

Mr Lujabe said the discussions had been "quite good" and it was decided by all parties to end the clash between Zulus and Pondos in the Malakazi and Mbongintwini areas in southern Natal in an "amicable and peaceful manner."

Mr Lujabe said it had been decided to set up a commission of inquiry into the causes of the fighting as soon as possible.

He said the commission may be composed of Transkei, KwaZulu, and South African officials.

Mr Lujabe said Transkei was still trying to establish the exact number of people who had fled the Natal fighting and returned to Pondoland.

He said the Transkei Department of Welfare and Pensions had been instructed to look after the settlement and welfare of those who had fled.

KwaNdebele To Accept Independence on 4 December

MB041755 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The national state of KwaNdebele is to become independent on 4 December this year. This was announced this afternoon by Chief Minister Simon Sikosana in the KwaNdebele legislative assembly at (Soibuswa).

Mr Sikosana said he had prepared himself for independence since the government had come out in favor of it in 1983. Kwandebele is the fifth national state to accept independence. The others are Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, and Ciskei.

European Socialists To Press for Tougher Sanctions

MB050912 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2319 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 4, SAPA — A group of socialists from the European Parliament who were on a five-day fact-finding mission to South Africa said tonight they were returning to Europe resolved to call for stronger economic sanctions against South Africa.

The parliamentarians met community leaders and representatives of organisations such as the Black Sash and the United Democratic Front, according to one of the parliamentarians, Mrs Barbara Simons.

The delegation leaves South Africa tonight for Lusaka where they are expected to meet African National Congress officials.

Mrs Simons, from the Federal Republic of Germany, said the aim of the group's visit was to gain the "newest" information on South Africa.

Mrs Janey Buchan, from Scotland, said the group had tried to take a bunch of red carnations and a note to Mr Nelson Mandela in Pollsmoor Prison today, but had been unsuccessful.

Faction Fighting Erupts in East Rand Mine

Miners Bused Out

MB051313 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The National Union of Mineworkers [NUM] says mineworkers are being bused out of Consolidated Modderfontein gold mine. The union says the mine on the East Rand has been sealed off by the SADF. It has not disclosed how many workers are affected.

The NUM says the workers are being sent home, following last night's strike in sympathy with the dismissal of two active union members. The head office of the mine was unable to comment, and the mine spokesman could not be contacted.

6 Dead, 34 Injured

MB061046 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1044 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 6, SAPA — The death toll in a faction fight at the Western Deep Levels Mine, near Randforntein, has risen to six with 34 people injured, a spokesman for the Anglo American Corporation, which adminsters the mine, said today.

The spokesman said earlier that two miners had died and 20 had been injured in a faction fight between a Xhosa/Pondo faction and Basothos at the mine's number three hostel last night.

The additional dead and injured were found today after management were able to get in to the hostel to inspect the damage.

The spokesman said that about 3500 of the hostels 4472 residents had not reported for work on the morning shift today.

The reason for the fight was not known, but mine management was working on resolving the differences between the miners.

"We are more concerned about resolving the differences between the workers than we are about production at this stage," the spokesman said.

He added that production had been affected by the unrest at the mine but the extent was not known.

A group of 864 Xhosas and Pondos from the mines number nine hostel had left the mine after requesting to be sent home, the spokesman said.

NUM Comments

MB051640 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1630 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 5, SAPA — Trouble has broken out on two Transvaal gold mines — fatal faction fights erupted at the Western Deep mine in Carletonville last night, and management at the Consolidated Modderfontein Mine in Brakpan today bused home workers who downed tools last night, according to the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

A spokesman for the NUM which represents workers on both mines, said the situation at Western Deep, where at least one man has died in the faction fighting, "was still very tense" although conditions seemed to have improved.

The NUM and the Anglo American Corporation, owners of Western Deep, held talks this morning to investigate the cause of the clashes and to "monitor the situation," he said.

A spokesman for Anglo American tonight denied earlier reports that the clash involved a labour dispute, and said the NUM and management were "cooperating in an effort to resolve the situation" at Western Deep.

He said Xhosa and Pondo workers had clashed with Sotho miners at the mines central hostel at about midnight. As a result, about 4000 of the 22,000 workers at the mine failed to report for duty this morning.

He said the factors which sparked the fight were still not known.

The NUM spokesman said the strike at the Consolidated Modderfontein Mine had broken out in solidarity with two union activists, who had been dismissed by management.

He said 800 workers had gone out during the night shift and were apparently joined by workers on the day shift this morning. He said the mine employs about 1300 [as received] workers, but was unsure how many had been dismissed.

The mine had been sealed off by the SADF and the union was monitoring the situation, he added.

Consolidated Modderfontein is not a member of the Chamber of Mines and its Johannesburg head office is listed as Golden Dumps in the telephone directory.

The head office was not able to comment on the dispute and management at the mine could not be contacted tonight.

Traffic Officer Burned in Auto Petrol Bombing

MB060519 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2138 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 5, SAPA — A provincial traffic officer is in an unsatisfactory condition in the Tygerberg hospital burns unit after a petrol bomb burst inside his vehicle this afternoon.

A police liaison offficer for the Western Province, Lt Attie Laubscher, tonight confirmed that traffic officer Micheal McCall had been badly burned when an unknown person threw a petrol bomb into his official vehicle in Strandfontein road shortly after 6 pm.

Officer McCall, who with some colleagues had been carrying out a routine traffic count procedure, had just climbed into the car on his own when someone walked up to it and threw the petrol bomb inside.

The bomb exploded and the fire badly burned him before he managed to get out, helped by his shocked colleagues. The car was also badly burned, Lt Laubscher said. No arrest has yet been made.

A spokesman for Tygerberg hospital last night said Officer McCall's condition was unsatisfactory but stable.

Three 'Terrorists' Arrested in Northern Natal

MB051452 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1451 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 5, SAPA — The police in northern Natal have arrested three suspected terrorists and recovered a large number of arms of Russian origin, the commissioner of police, General P.J. Coetzee, announced today.

He said the operation had taken place in the Ingwavuma area.

The arms include AK rifles, bayonets, an RPG 7 missile launcher and projectiles, hand grenades, personnel mines and limpet mine.

Man Killed in Clash With Bophuthatswana Police

MB051935 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1935 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Garankuwa, Feb 5, SAPA — A man was shot and killed in a clash between police and a group of people in Mmakau near Garankuwa yesterday.

Bophuthatswana police public relations officer, Colonel Dave George, said today the man was shot and killed when he tried to wrest a gun from a policemen who was guarding the Malatse-Motsepe school.

He said the dead man was one of a group that attacked the school apparently intending to set it alight.

Police Report 5-6 Feb Unrest Incidents

5 Feb

MB051707 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1638 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 5, SAPA — Following is SAP situation report on unrest to 7pm today:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported today:

"At Kwadengezi, near Pinetown, a delivery vehicle was stoned and damaged.

"At Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged by stonethrowers. Police arrested a man in connection with this incident. In the same area, a development board vehicle was destroyed by arsonists.

"At Mbekweni, near Paarl, a petrol bomb was thrown at a bus, causing extensive damage.

"At Guguletu, in the western Cape, a bus was stoned. Two black men were slightly injured during this incident.

"At KwaNobuhle, near Uitenhage, a private vehicle was set on fire and extensively damaged.

"At Kagiso, near Krugersdorp, a private vehicle was set on fire and extensively damaged, while at Mohlakeng, near Randfontein, a post office vehicle was damaged by arsonists.

"At Constantia, a black residential area near Kroonstad, a cold drink delivery vehicle was stopped and looted."

End report.

6 Feb

MB060638 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0624 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 6, SAPA — The SA police 8am unrest situation report as supplied by the public relations divisons of the SA police in Pretoria:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight.

"At Phillipi near Cape Town a mob threw a petrol bomb into a traffic officers vehicle, causing him slight burn wounds. He was admitted to the Tygerberg Hospital. At the New Crossroads a woman was slightly injured when a bus was stoned.

"At the black residential area Imbali near Pietermaritzburg two men and two youths were slightly injured by a bus when the driver of the bus drove through a group of stonethrowers.

"At KwaZakele a woman died when a private home was set alight by arsonists.

"At the coloured residential area Paarl East near Paarl a man was slightly injured when a bus was stoned. The SAP dispersed the crowd with shotgun fire. No arrests were made.

"At Claremont near Durban a private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists."

Press Comments, Reports on Current Issues

MB040910 [Editorial Report] **Mine Act Amendment**
The Mineworkers Union (MWU) is demanding that the government introduce legislation to guarantee employment of white miners, or it will not negotiate with the Chamber of Mines to end the scheduled person clause in the Mines and Works Act, Amrit Manga reports on page 1 of the *BUSINESS TIMES* section. The clause bars blacks from obtaining a blasting certificate, which in turn excludes them from the top skilled jobs on the mines. Arrie Paulus, general secretary of the union, rejects the chamber's guarantee of security of employment, and says: " 'The chamber's guarantee that employment will be on merit and that training standards will be maintained is not even worth the paper it is written on.' " Manga notes that the minister of mineral and energy affairs, Danie Steyn, had promised to legislate the Mines and Works Act amendment this year if the chamber and the MWU could not agree through negotiation. "Any postponement of legislation could further strain industrial relations between management and the black National Union of Mineworkers."

Randfontein Asks Hike in Security

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 3 February reports on page 3 that members of the Afrikaanse Sankekamer (Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce) in Randfontein "have appealed to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Le Grange, for stricter security measures in the town after two petrol bomb attacks on Saturday." The appeal follows meetings by the chamber and by Dan Pienaarville residents in neighbouring Krugersdorp.

Urbanization Proposals Criticized

The Surplus People Project (SPP) has called President Botha's proposals for orderly urbanization, "a name for an updated form of influx control," *THE STAR* reports on page 4. The SPP said the Group Areas Act will still prevent people from living outside their allocated areas, and unless the "Urban Areas Act and a dozen other laws were scrapped, the identity document would still be a pass."

STAR Defends Tutu's Moderacy

In an editorial on page 10, *THE STAR* says people must recognize that Bishop Tutu is a moderate. "He is not shaping black attitudes so much as mirroring them. When he calls for support for the ANC, he expresses a sentiment that is widespread in the townships. Whites may not like it, but that's the way things are." Some "silly, short-sighted and sometimes malicious critics" are busy trying to represent Tutu as the devil incarnate. "If they make it impossible for the Government to talk to him, especially in Mr Botha's new statutory council, they will have done the country a profound disservice."

Botswana Security Actions Lauded

A second editorial on the same page says the government of Botswana "has outlawed the posssession of 'weapons of war.' Its security forces are active in tracking down and prosecuting those who break the law. It has invited the South African Foreign Minister to visit Botswana to point out centres of ANC activity." What more can any open, democratic society do? "Is Pretoria not asking more of Botswana in the security field than it can mange itself?"

Relief Fund for Unrest Victims' Burials

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 3 February reports on page 2 that the Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industry plans to raise R500,000 for a relief fund to bury unrest victims. "The chamber hopes to raise the money by charging businessmen R100 a year for membership. Businessmen living or operating outside Soweto will be charged R200 for membership a year."

SOWETAN Says Botha Should Retire

In its editorial on page 4, the *SOWETAN* comments that after studying President Botha's speech on Friday, "We are as it were back to square one. Our feeling, as we indicated last week, is that Mr Botha should retire." Unfortunately a look at the leaders who might take Botha's place indicates "no hope for decisive change." What is really needed is a whole new government. "The incumbents are trapped into their old mould by too many strains that seem imposssible to break."

U.S., UK Not Involved in Mandela Negotiations

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 1 February carries a report by Brian Stuart on page 1 that "diplomatic sources in Cape Town" have indicated it is unlikely that the United States or Britain will become involved in any negotiations for the release of Nelson Mandela, because the situation " 'has just too many political angles to it.' " Both South African and diplomatic sources told *THE CITIZEN* "this was a 'new initiative' by Mr Botha, and there had been no previous intergovernment contact on negotiation on such a proposal."

Botha Has Crossed Rubicon

It its editorial on page 6, *THE CITIZEN* says "nobody, except the conservative Right, the quibbling Left and the radical extremists, can have anything but respect" for Botha's brave statement of commitment to reform on Friday. "Those who ran scared after Rubicon One can now be satisfied that he has set the country firmly on the road of change. And there can be no doubt this time that he has crossed the Rubicon successfully."

Black Municipal Law Officers Graduate

THE CITIZEN reports on page 9 that 750 new black municipal law enforcement officers have graduated from Lenz Military Base. They "will perform an auxilliary function to the South African Police by protecting the lives of community councillors, municipal installations and government property."

'Out of Question' to Unban ANC

Johannesburg *THE CTIZEN* in English on 3 February carries a report by Brian Stuart which says government sources in Cape Town have confirmed that President Botha's government is " 'not even considering' " unbanning the ANC. "Commented a Government source: 'That is absolutely out of the question. And any reading of the State President's speech to Parliament on Friday makes that very clear indeed.' "

CITIZEN on Botha Commitment to Reform

In its editorial on page 6 *THE CITIZEN* comments that the state president's message in the Sunday newspapers should have convinced doubters of his commitment to reform. "The message, it is true, is presented with a certain amount of advertising hype, but it comes across simply, and directly, and without any attempt to fuzz the issues. Taken in conjuction with his address to Parliament, the guidelines have been set, the principles enunciated, the abandonment of apartheid proclaimed, the declaration of intent given."

Statutory Council May Negotiate Constitution

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 3 February carries a report by Neil Jacobson which says that "sources close to the latest reform proposals" say the new national statutory council "is seen by senior Cabinet ministers as the body which will negotiate a new constitution. Government leaders see it developing into a powerful executive body that will change the face of the country, say the sources." The sources also said they are convinced of the government commitment to scrap the pass system. " 'We have been assured that there will be no restrictions on the free movement of all South Africans,' says one source. 'The only control will be on squatting. Obviously no government can allow uncontrolled squatting.' "

BUSINESS DAY on Botha Speech

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 3 February comments in an editorial on page 6 that there were three points in President P.W. Botha's Friday speech which make it an "important milestone." "First, he set out clearly his objective of fostering genuine power-sharing in this country that will ultimately have very little to do with the racial demarcations that have so bedevilled our past." "Second, he appears to acknowledge that the country is in a pre-negotiation phase and that reforms from now on must arise not from consulatation but from genuine negotiation with those who represent radically different points of views and sectional interests." "Third, the decision to scrap the hated pass laws and not to replace them with some less visible legislative device was bold and imaginative."

Does Botha Mean What He Says?

Neil Jocobsohn comments on the speech on page 7 and says: "The bottom line, simply, is whether P.W. Botha actually means to do what he appears to have said he will do." Jacobsohn notes the following points: Botha "was doing more than rattling sabres" in calling for a regional security commission; he neglected to even mention the suspension of foreign credit lines and the debt standstill; he promised extension of the powers of the self-governing states, indicating the "government is still wed to the farce of 'independent homelands' "; and he promised freehold rights to members of black communities, but limited them to freehold within prescribed areas, "nothing in Botha's spech indicates any softening of the Group Areas Act." "Also important, and so far unremarked, was Botha's announcement that white papers on the refining of South African minerals, and on our energy policy, would be tabled this session. Greater beneficiation of our natural resources wll be one of the major pillars of future economic stability, leading to a real increase in exports and a lessening dependence on imports." Commenting on the Botha's remarks on Nelson Mandela, Jacobsohn says "there are strong suggestions that foreign governments may well have been involved in secret discussions" on the matter, and "rumours are doing the rounds of grave divisions in the Cabinent over plans to release Mandela." He says that the nation was confused and awaiting a sign after the speech, but Botha's statement in the newspaper promising an end to influx control by 1 July is "a promise not even the Nationalists will be able to back away from."

Transkei Urges Joint Army

In the "News Digest" column on page 1 of the same edition, *BUSINESS DAY* reports: "Transkei's President Kaiser Matanzima has called for a joint army from SA, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei and Venda to fight communist organisations 'which had declared war against them'."

Shipping Industry Feeling Pinch

Two articles dealing with the shipping industry appear on page 5. The first, by Alan Peat, notes that political factors are discouraging Western shipowners from having their ships repaired in South Africa, despite the advantages of the weak rand. The manager for one major ship repair firm said it was becoming "increasingly difficult" to attract major contracts. " 'I have been told nothing officially, but I surmise that owners are facing pressure not to repair in SA because of the political uncertainty and unrest,' " he said. The second article notes that the falloff in imports means freighters are losing money by carrying 1-way cargoes more and more and "only the prospect of this season's fruit exports" promises any immediate relief. "Big ships, afflicted by rate-cutting competitors, are having a rough passage."

Stocks Reaction Positive

Mervyn Harris writes in the "Diagonal Street" column on page 13 that President Botha's speech has drawn a positive reaction on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. "Brokers believe the short-term outlook is now more favourable with industrial shares likely to be the major beneficiaries. This was reflected in Friday's trading when leading industrials posted good gains." He notes that implication for gold shares seem "less clear. Much will depend on how the commercial rand shapes up. There was little momement in the currency after Botha's address."

Government Reforms 'Dictatorial'

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 4 February reports on page 5 that an organizer of the "Let South Africa Speak Campaign" says the government will not get credit for its announced reforms because the measures have been decided on in a dictatorial fashion. The organization's manifesto says: " 'We wish to see our leaders listening to each other in public and on TV — live not edited, giving each other a fair hearing, never telling us to take up arms against each other...' " People in the campaign " 'are concerned people who wish to live in peace,' " a spokesman for the group said.

Petition To Have Munsieville Moved

Karen Bowes reports on page 7 that 14,000 residents of Dan Pienaarville and Krugersdorp have signed a petition requesting that the township of Munsieville be moved. A spokesman commented after a meeting of the residents: " 'The meeting is in no way political, nor are we fighting for the white residents of Krugersdorp alone. We are fighting for the people of Krugersdorp. Many home-owners in Munsieville are not happy to live in the township because there are inadequate facilities. We are not just driving them out — they would rather live in Kagiso and many have said they are prepared to sign our petition.' "

STAR Lauds Slabbert Proposals

In an editorial on page 10, *THE STAR* says PFP leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert has proposed a way to undermine the ANC's justification for violence: lift the state of emergency, release detainees, unban banned organizations, provide executive appointments for blacks, and remove discriminatory measures to clear the atmosphere. Even if one does not doubt the sincerity of President Botha and his reform plans, he "has a long way to go to meet those critieria."

SOWETAN Reports Speculation on Mandela

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 4 February reports on page 1 that "Spectulation on the possible release of Mr [Nelson] Mandela was fanned by reports that several high-ranking United Democratic Front officials had flown to Cape Town with" with Winnie Mandela. Foreign observers speculated that Mandela could be freed "as early as this week."

SOWETAN Sees 'Sinister Motives'

In its editorial on page 4 the *SOWETAN* says the people simply don't believe President Botha's promises. "We see sinister motives in the most postive moves the Governemnt is about," such as the new identificaton documents. "The statutory council is as dubious a concept as all its preceeding models." "The best that has come out of the Rubicon II speech was the portion on education. We do not expect any miracles to happen even here, but anything that would get our children out of this mess will be met with a great deal of joy."

Criticism of Botha 'Unfair'

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 4 February criticizes media complaints about President Botha's speech and says: "For Heaven's sake, can't they give him the acknowledgement he deserves for bravely abandoning apartheid?" We never doubted that Botha's reforms were genuine, it says. "We say give the State President the praise he deserves; give him the chance to go ahead with his reforms without constant, unfair criticism of what he had done and intends to do."

Identity Documents Major Undertaking

Gerald Reilly reports on page 1 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 4 February that Pretoria sources estimate 20 million people could qualify for the new uniform identity document for all race groups, and "it could take up to a decade before the issue operation is completed." He adds that the last Book of Life for whites, colored, and Asians was launched in 1972, cost the government R35 million, and never did result in the issuance of documents to all who applied for them.

Government Mocks Reform Moves

In an editorial on page 6, *BUSINESS DAY* laments: "By refusing service to coloured MP's in the House of Assembly restuarant yesterday, government has suceeded in making a mockery within a matter of hours of its grand reform moves."

Rand Strength 'a Good Sign'

In a second editorial on the same page says: "It would be unwise to read too much into the rand's passivity on the first day of trading after President Botha's speech at the opening of Parliament," but "the rand's continued strength yesterday in the face of another drop in gold and a rising dollar must be a good sign."

BEELD on Botha Speech

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 3 February, in its editorial on page 6, welcomes the president's speech to Parliament in which he said the country had outgrown the concept of aprtheid. It says: "In the opening address, which provided a preview of a democratic future, there was also sharp criticism implied of the decades of Afrikaner political domination: South Africa should be protected from those who want to rule the country 'by the use of power by an exlusive political clique'." The government has already shown, in the past year, that it is dismantling apartheid and introducing full justice in the system of government. The editorial adds that the true intentions of the government have been scandalously distorted in the past, and asks how other interested parties are going to react to the drama taking place in this country. "For years South African politics has had to deal with leaders who break down and criticize. Are they now going to leave their seats along the fence?" It also asks about Western governments who in 1985 leaned heavily on this country with sanctions and threats. "Are they now going to use their diplomatic and economic muscle so that the Botha manifesto can be realized? Or are they secretly ging to embrace the ANC and its bloodthirstiness?"

Apartheid Is 'Finished'

On page 8 of Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 1 February, columnist "Dawie" in his "From My Political Pen" column, says even the most bitter opponent of the National Party will have to admit that yesterday the government once again took the initiative in South African politics, with the opening address to Parliament by the state president. The writer says internationally the most significant news is probably the offer to release Nelson Mandela, and reaction could indicate how much the communist-controlled ANC really wants Mandela to be free. The president's address, he says, made it clear that the role of apartheid, in the sense of enforced segregation, is finished. Welcoming the proposed national statutory council, he says: "It would create a framework, under the chairmanship of the state president himself, in which leaders can hammer out the future of power sharing on the anvil of negotiation." He says other governments of the subcontinent will have to decide whether they can afford to reject the hand of friendship which has been offered them anew, in the form of a permanent security mechanism, and concludes with a reference to the no-confidence debate which is to follow in Parliament: "After a year of unrest and devastation, the country does not deserve that the opposition get away easily, and that the powerful initiative of the president be moved into the background."

DIE VADERLAND Says Black Reaction Positive

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 3 February says in an editorial on page 8 that "there is general agreement among reasonable people that the state president's speech was meaningful." The most important observation is the reaction of blacks inside the country. The ANC's reaction is that it is not interested, while that of Bishop Tutu is elusively negative. Nevertheless, there was positive reaction from black communities. Nearly all have welcomed the state president's proposals. "The time has come that they visibly participate in the reform process. Only then can it succeed."

Advertising Campaign Succeeding

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 4 February says in an article on page 4 that "reaction to the state president's unique advertising campaign is so favorable that the campaign could possibly be extended overseas."

Slabbert, PFP Irrelevant

In an editorial on page 8 in the same edition, *BEELD* says "it takes a speech such as the one delivered by Dr van Zyl Slabbert yesterday in the no-confidence debate to realize the confusion caused among leftwing politicians by the state president's opening address to Parliament." Lacking good arguments, the leader of the opposition used the tactic the English call "damning with faint praise." Slabbert praised the audacity and sincerity of the state president, who said things never before said by any National Party leader. But it notes Slabbert "missed a golden opportunity to exercise positive influence on South African politics or at least give his party some semblance of relevancy."

SWAZILAND

Bhekimpi Views Fernandez Dismissal, Warns Dissidents

MB050821 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, has called on the entire Swazi nation to pray and work hard to make the coronation of the crown prince, Makhosetive, a success and a memorable coronation in the present century. Prince Bhekimpi also appealed to the nation to attend the coronation in full traditional attire to prove to the visitors that Swazis are united and a peace-loving nation.

Addressing a press conference, which was attended by cabinet ministers at Government House this morning, the prime minister warned the would-be dissidents against the state to refrain from such activities and work in unity with all the Swazis. During the press conference the prime ministers described foreign press reports concerning the dismissal of the roving ambassador, Chief Antonior Fernandez, as true. The prime minister said the contract which Chief Fernandez entered into with the Swaziland Government was terminated last October. He said Chief Fernandez was told of his dismissal in a letter handed to him while in New York. The letter from the elders of the nation was handed to Chief Fernandez by Prince Bhekimpi during the 40th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations in New York.

During the same press conference, Prince Bhekimpi said the Kingdom of Swaziland has hailed the step taken by South Africa's state presidet, Mr P.W. Botha, towards reducing racial discrimination in South Africa. Prince Bhekimpi said Swaziland is happy that President Botha will form a council comprising all tribes in South Africa, and pass laws will be changed and all South African citizens will carry one identity pass with effect from July this year. He said President Botha should continue in his present state of reducing apartheid and amend where possible so that even complaintants could be satisfied.

Commenting on the change of government in Lesotho, Prince Bhekimpi said the new government has taken back the executive power to the monarch. He said the monarch in Lesotho will now be in a position to form a government. The prime minister said Swaziland appreciated that King Moshoeshoe II is now in possession of executive powers.

Speaking about the Swaziland Government's call to the nation of "back to the land," the prme minister congratulated areas which have a sign that they will achieve good harvests this year. He said in some areas there is no rain but the communities should not give up. He said Swaziland needs food self-sufficiency.

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Criticizes U.S. Support for RSA

MB031809 Dakar PANA in English 0957 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Lusaka, 3 Feb (ZANA/PANA) — Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda has described the decision by the United States to support South Africa's recent invasion of Angola as a sign that the U.S. supported racism.

Dr Kaunda said U.S. support for South Africa had now reached dangerous proportions with the racist regime intensifying its attacks on independent neighbouring states. He was speaking when the special representative of the United Nations secretary-general in charge of Namibia, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, presented a special message from Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar at State House yesterday.

Dr Kaunda reiterated his condemantion of a recent meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Angolan rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi. He said this was inspite of the fact that the Angolan Government was recognised by Frontline States, the OAU, the UN and nonaligned nations.

He said he was disenchanted to note that the United States, a great superpower, was becoming an ally of racist South Africa.

Dr Kaunda wondered why a great power which claimed to have principles based on Christian values could come out to support South Africa which had invaded an independent country.

He described the invasion as a dangerous development and hoped the UN would help defuse the problem.

The president further stressed that Mr Ahtisaari's visit to Zambia was very important, particularly as the question of the independence of Namibia had come to all standstill.

In reply the UN envoy said the world body was always willing to hear President Kaunda's views on the Namibian question.

Mr Ahtisaari was accompanied to State House by Zambia's permanent representative to the UN, Dr Paul Lusaka.

EEC-Frontline States Foreign Ministers Meet

Kuanda Receives Dos Santos Message

MB311955 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 31 Jan 86

[Text] The president of the Republic, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, has sent a message to Zambian Head of State Kenneth Kaunda, which was delevered in Lusaka yesterday by Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, Angolan minister of external relations. Sources from the Ministry of External Relations said in Luanda today that the message is linked to the present situation in southern Africa.

On the occasion, President Kaunda reiterated the full solidarity of the Zambian Government and people with the People's Republic of Angola and denounced vehemently the visit of the leader of the UNITA armed bandits to United States.

We recall that Minister Afonso van Dunem Mbinda has been in Zambia since yesterday to attend the 3-4 February meeting of the EEC and the Frontline States ministers of foreign affairs. The meeting will discuss a common strategy to ease the effects of the South African aggression against southern Africa states. In the context of this strategy and within the framework of European political cooperation, which advocates sanctions against South Africa, the 12 EEC members-states decided at the beginning of this week to suspend all their oil exports to South Africa.

Kuanda Opens Session

MB031141 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] President Kaunda has condemned the South African occupation of Namibia and blamed the U.S. stand on the issue, which links the territory's independence to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from neighboring Angola. The president reiterated that the Frontline States do not accept the linking of Cuban troops in Angola with the independence of Namibia. He said such an arrangement will only come about if the United States stops supporting the UNITA rebels in Angola and South Africa stops interfering in southern Angola. Dr Kaunda was speaking at Lusaka's Mulungushi Hass this morning when he opened the 2-day meeting of foreign ministers from the EEC and Frontline States. The president, who called for the immediate unconditional release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners in South Africa, also called on the Pretoria regime to lift the ban on all political organizations in that country.

Kaunda Addresses Session

MB040533 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1600 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] President Kaunda of Zambia has criticized European governments for what he called falling for Pretoria's propaganda that real change was taking place in South Africa. The remarks were made at a meeting between representatives of the EEC and the Frontline States. (Mike Woolrich) reports from Lusaka.

[(Woolrich)] In an emotional speech, President Kaunda said the Frontline States felt that European countries did not care what was happening in the region, as long as their multinationals within South Africa continued to earn huge profits from the black man's cheap labor. He asked what other interpretation could be placed on Europe's reluctance, and in some cases strong opposition, to economic sanctions. But he warned that if the situation in South Africa did not change for the better, European and American investments there would go up in flames. And he maintained that the South Africans were seeking only to make apartheid more acceptable, not to abolish it.

Kaunda Hosts Dinner

MB040641 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] President Kaunda has called for closer cooperation between European countries and Africa. President Kaunda was speaking at a dinner he hosted for delegates to the joint meeting of ministers of foreign affairs of Frontline States and those of the EEC. The president said he was confident that if Europe, with its capital and know-how worked closely with Africa with its natural resources, this troubled world would become a much better place to live in.

At the same dinner, the president of the Council of Ministers of the European Community, Hans van den Broek, said while Europe and Africa were geographically remote they were united in spirit. Mr van den Broek assured Dr Kaunda that the European states were willing to cooperate with Africa in bringing about development for the benefit of all the people.

In another development, Italy says she is prepared to take further actions aimed at pressurizing the South African regime to work for the peaceful end of apartheid. Italian Vice Foreign Minister Mario Raffaelli told the press in Lusaka that his country is ready to make significant contributions to efforts in favor of peaceful change in South Africa in addition to those taken by the EEC. Mr Raffaelli is leading the Italian delegation to the 2-day meeting of Frontline States and European Community foreign ministers.

Kaunda Meets UK, Greek Ministers

MB050617 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The president, Dr Kaunda, yesterday dismissed as nothing the declaration by South African President Pieter Botha that he believes apartheid is dead and that he wants to bury it. The president was reacting to a statement Botha made when he officially opened Parliament last Thursday that he would scrap existing laws which curbed the movement of blacks in cities and introduce a new strategy for black urbanization.

Dr Kaunda, who was speaking at State House when British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe called on him, said Botha was moving from apartheid to apartheid. He said Botha has not changed anything ideologically, politically, and in terms of law. The president, however, hoped that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who was quite instrumental in the Zimbabwe independence talks in 1979 during the Commonwealth summit in Lusaka, would help the Frontline States in conflicts with apartheid South Africa.

The British foreign secretary said that although he could not speak for Botha, he detected some signs of progress in the apartheid republic.

And in another meeting with Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias at State House, the president commended Greece for training Zambians in various fields. Dr Kaunda said all young Zambians who have come from Greece had expressed great satisfaction with their training because they undertook the same courses with Greeks, unlike other countries where they were tailored for Zambians only. He said this signified that Greece treated its guests the same as its nationals which, he emphasized, was appreciated by Zambia. The president also said Zambia was thankful for the support that the Greek Government is rendering to the stuggling people of South Africa.

The minister said in reply that his country was striving hard to be independent of great poweres, a role which was based on the principles of humanism. He said Greece agreed absolutely with Zambia on the situation in South Africa which posed a danger to international peace, adding that the same applied to Israel, which was why the two countries had similar views on such issues.

UK Minister Makes Statement

MB050641 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Britain has strongly reiterated her opposition to the imposition of economic sanctions on South Africa to ending apartheid by force. Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said in a statement released in Lusaka yesterday that his country believed that apartheid cannot be dismantled by force of arms or isolation. Sir Geoffrey said there was need, therefore, to press for dialogue and peaceful change in South Africa because Britain believed in the opening of channels and not closing them through boycotts. He said it would be unpardonable to succumb to fatalism that abandons the solution of southern Africa's problems to the force of arms.

EEC President on Commitment

MB050629 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The EEC is committed to the development of Frontline States in order to reduce their dependence on racist South Africa. EEC Council of Ministers President Hans van den Broek of Holland said this in Lusaka yesterday. He said the EEC realizes that without being self-reliant the Frontline States would continue to be victims of South Africa's destabilization activities because they depend on her for their survival.

Mr Broek said the EEC was not paying lip service to the efforts of finding a peaceful solution to the region's problems, but was genuinely committed to the setting up of development projects in those countries to enhance their self-reliance.

French Minister Pledges Aid

MB050702 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] France has pledged to continue assisting victims of apartheid and the southern African countries in all sectors. French Deputy Minister for Energy Marrtin Marlvy said in Lusaka yesterday that his government would continue offering services such as health, education and legal aid to ease the problems of the black majority in South Africa.

Mr Marlvy, who was leading the French delegation to the just-ended Frontline foreign ministers' meeting with officials from the EEC, pledged political support for South Africa's neighbors should any acts of aggression or attempts of destabilization be made by Pretoria. He repeated France's condemnation of South African raids into Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Lesotho, and threats made against Zimbabwe.

Mr Marlvy said what the French Government wished for was just a free and democratic society. He pointed out that the escalation of violence in South Africa had led France to believe that mere words and verbal condemnations were not enough and that it was necessary to take concrete measures to bring South Africa to book.

ANC's Nzo Holds Press Confernce on Talks With UK

MB051309 Dakar PANA in English 1240 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Lusaka, 5 Feb, (ZANA/PANA) — The African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) has welcomed the talks it has held with office [as received] as an important development.

Speaking at a press conference at the REUTERS NEWS AGENCY office here, ANC Secretary-General Mr Alfred Nzo said contacts which are the first of their kind were particularly significant as the Pretoria regime was trying to get governments like the British to expell the ANC from their countries.

Mr Nzo was briefing the press on the talks held between British foreign officials and ANC members on Monday. The talks were held with the approval of the Commonwealth and foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Mr Nzo, however, explained that the talks merely signified contacts between the ANC and the British Government but did not mean British recognition of the ANC.

He explained that Britain was realising that her long term interests lay in contacts with ANC, adding that this would bring her in line with international opinion and that of her own people.

Mr Nzo expressed hope that the talks were a beginning of an on-going contact between his organistion and the British Conservative Government.

Whereas the two sides agreed on the need to release Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners and a democratic and non racial South Africa, they differed on the question of violence.

We differed on violence, Mr Nzo explained: as far as we are concerned we are talking of armed resistance which is defensive against state violence.

The ANC welcomed the meeting of Frontline States and European Community foreign ministers which ended in Lusaka yesterday afternoon but expressed disappointment with the European failure to join their counterparts in condemning the red carpet welcome accorded to UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi on arrival in the United States.

That form of intereferance by the U.S. in the affiars of a sovereign state is unacceptable to us, Mr Nzo stressed.